

trust and much abuse, but with all this, I maintain that those who find fault would not do better, nor even so well; I say so advisedly, having considered the subject fully, and having had a fair opportunity of seeing work done by Magistrates with active Darogahs, intelligent Mohurirs, and smart Ferry Fund Overseers. I feel that this explanation is necessary in putting forward the proposal with which I have commenced this paragraph, and this is my apology for saying so much on the subject.

22. If the work be carried out by the Department Public Works very little alteration of the present arrangements would be necessary. It would probably be desirable to have an Executive Engineer at the head-quarters of each Magistrate, and a Subordinate at each Sub-Divisional head-quarters, though this arrangement would not be at all essential. I would put the whole of the work of the Division under the Executive Engineer, abolishing all separate establishments under Commissioners, Magistrates and Ferry Fund Committees. The Executive Engineer would carry out the local works just as he now does the regular work of the Department, simply sending a copy of the portion of his accounts and reports relating to the local works to the Committees or Sub-Committees; but these bodies should not interfere in any way with the carrying out of the work beyond reporting to the proper authority if they were dissatisfied with the progress, cost, or any of the proceedings of the Department. The interest which the Committees would naturally take in the proper prosecution of the work for which they were paying would cause them to exercise a wholesome kind of public-opinion-influence on our Department, which would probably be of real use. The Lieutenant-Governor is aware that at present there is a difficulty in superintending the various out-station works without making the cost of supervision very heavy; throwing all the works of the Sub-Divisions into hands of the Subordinates would overcome this difficulty to a considerable extent; while, on the other hand, removing any portion of it, unless all was removed, would only increase the evil.

23. If any such scheme as I have sketched were to be carried out, the first step to be taken should be to call on all Sub-Committees to furnish a scheme of communications,—metalled roads,

cutcha roads, khalls, or whatever else might be thought desirable,—which would most fully meet all the present and prospective wants of the Sub-Division, framed quite independent of the consideration how the money to carry them out was to be provided. This arrangement for a design for a complete scheme should be considered by all the Committees, and even be approved of by Government. It would then form the basis of future improvements,—a scheme to be worked up to, as time and means permitted, and to serve as a guide to new Magistrates and Members as the old ones changed from time to time.

24. I am having a statement prepared, showing the number of miles of roads of each class in each Division in Bengal, excluding Assam and Orissa, the cost of maintaining them properly and the rate of assessment per beegah, which this would necessitate, but as the statement will take some little time to prepare, I submit this note without waiting for it.

Additional Note by the Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Public Works Department, on the means of raising Funds for Local Roads, dated the 23rd March 1868.

Referring to paragraph 24 of this Office note of 27th ultimo, the Controller has prepared a memorandum of the expenditure on local and other roads which contains a much useful information.

Regarding the sums which it would be prudent to expend on the improvement and maintenance of roads under the Government of Bengal, the annexed table gives the information as far as I can form an opinion. Having due regard to the amount of work which could be done without seriously disturbing the labor market, or unduly taxing those who should pay, I think the estimate made by the Controller in Table VII. annexed to his memorandum is too high. Of course, it will be understood that the rate per beegah in the annexed table is merely intended to give an idea of how the tax would press on land-holders.

H. LEONARD, C. E.,

*Offg. Secy. to the Govt of Bengal,
in the Public Works Dept.*

Estimate of the probable annual requirements of funds in each Division for the maintenance of existing Roads and the construction of new Roads, and the rate per beegah which it would be necessary to levy to raise these amounts.

DIVISIONS.	LENGTH OF ROADS IN EACH DIVISION.			PROBABLE AMOUNT REQUIRED FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF ROADS.						Area of Division in square miles.	Area in beegabs.	Rate of assessment required per beegab in pies and decimals of a pie.
	Metalled Roads.	Unmetalled Roads.	Total.	For improvements and construction of additional Roads.	For maintenance of existing Roads.	For Establishment.	Total.	Rupees.	Rupees.			
Presidency	168	758	921	2,00,000	1,40,000	73,000	4,13,000	15,852	1,01,45,280	11-72*		
Dacca	.....	631	631	1,00,000	40,000	30,000	1,70,000	28,524	1,82,55,360	2-68	
Chittagong	.....	521	521	1,00,000	30,000	20,000	1,50,000	15,745	1,00,76,800	4-28	
Assam	.....	1,581	1,581	2,00,000	1,00,000	56,000	3,56,000	29,464	1,88,56,960	5-44	
Rajshahye	86	2,000	2,086	1,50,000	1,30,000	48,000	3,28,000	18,193	1,16,43,520	8-11		
Bhargulpore	22	1,550	1,572	1,50,000	1,10,000	50,000	3,10,000	18,911	1,21,03,040	7-37		
Patna	77	2,407	2,484	1,50,000	2,00,000	80,000	4,30,000	24,337	1,56,07,680	7-93		
Chota Nagpore	.....	1,147	1,147	1,50,000	70,000	44,000	2,64,000	25,284†	1,61,81,760†	4-68	
Burdwan	195	1,025	1,220	1,50,000	1,60,000	70,000	3,80,000	12,201	78,08,640	14-01		
Cuttack	.....	264	264	1,50,000	20,000	29,000	1,99,000	23,704	1,51,70,560	3-77	
Total	498	12,879	13,377	15,00,000	10,00,000	5,00,000	30,00,000	2,12,265	13,58,49,600	6-36		

* In the calculation of these rates the area of each Division has been assumed at two-thirds of that shown in the previous column, one-third having been deducted to allow for waste.

† This area is that of the Chota Nagpore Division, exclusive of Tributary States.

NOTE:—The areas of Division have been kindly furnished by Colonel Gastrell, Deputy Surveyor-General.

H. LEONARD, C. E.,
*Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
in the Public Works Department.*

Note on the Expenditure on Roads in Bengal during the six years 1861-62 to 1866-67 inclusive.

In the absence of any more recent record of the length of roads in Bengal the statement of roads published by Government in 1863 may be taken as affording the best data available, so far as local roads are concerned; as regards Imperial roads somewhat more accurate information is forthcoming, but even here, there is uncertainty as to the length of some of the unmetalled roads. Taking, however, the length of "Imperial Roads" from the last Outlay Report, and the length of "Local Roads" from the Statements above referred to, we have the following result as regards the several Divisions or Commissionerships of this Province:—

DIVISIONS.	Area in square miles.	IMPERIAL ROADS.			LOCAL ROADS.				GRAND TOTAL MILES OF ROAD.
		Metalled.	Unmetalled.	Total Miles.	Metalled.	Unmetalled.	Unmetalled & Unbridged.	Total Miles.	
Presidency ..	15,853	99	121	220	168	644	109	921	1,141
Dacca ..	28,524	8	82	90	..	256	375	631	721
Chittagong ..	15,745	..	128	128	..	364	157	521	649
Assam ..	83,842	..	756	756	..	679	902	1,581	2,337
Rajshahye ..	18,913	46	247	293	36	925	1,075	2,036	2,329
Bhargulpore ..	20,145	288	..	288	22	298	1,252	1,572	1,860
Patna ..	24,387	258	34	292	77	1,671	1,736	3,484	3,776
Chota Nagpore ..	25,284	164	58	222	..	527	620	1,147	1,369
Burdwan ..	12,201	388	94	482	195	634	391	1,220	1,702
Cuttack ..	23,704	120	557	677	..	66	198	264	941
Total ..	2,18,598	1,371	2,077	3,448	498	6,064	6,815	13,377	16,825

2. The Imperial Roads are generally bridged, with exception to the larger rivers which intersect them; the exception to this is Assam, where one-half of the so-called Imperial Roads are unbridged. The case is different with the Local Roads, of which it will be seen that upwards of one-half are without bridges, and that they are in fact mere tracks, passable in the dry season only. Taking the whole area of Bengal at 218,600 square miles, there is 1 mile of road to 13 square miles of country; but of the whole, only about one-tenth of the roads are metalled and nearly one-half are unbridged. Patna with its 3,776 miles of road has one mile to every $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles of country, and the Presidency Division, in which there has been so large an expenditure during recent years, has 1 mile of road to every 14 miles of country, whilst Dacca has only 1 mile of road to 40 square miles; but in this District the facilities for water carriage are great.

3. The total outlay on the improvement and maintenance of roads in Bengal during the six years, 1861-62 to 1866-67 inclusive, is shewn in Statement I.; the abstract being as follows:—

FONDS.	Original Works.	Repairs.	TOTAL.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Imperial Funds ..	89,80,705	42,85,661	1,32,66,366*
Local, or District Road Fund ..	50,58,485	33,07,341	83,65,826
Income Tax Fund ..	18,87,825	.....	18,87,825
Total ..	1,59,27,015	75,93,002	2,35,20,017 .

4. Thus during the six years nearly 40 lakhs of Rupees per annum have been spent on roads and works connected therewith, exclusive of the cost of establishment. Nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the whole outlay has been on repairs, and the remainder on construction of bridges and the metalling and the improvement of existing roads, for there appears to have been but little increase in their total length.

* About 44 lakhs in addition.

5. The Local Funds have received the benefit of the large amount available from the one per cent. Income Tax, from which source works

DIVISIONS.	Amount expended.	REMARKS.
	Rupees.	
Presidency	42,827	Exclusive of grants to Municipalities and outlay on works other than roads. The total grant from this source being Rupees 52,84,313.
Burdwan	2,41,133	
Dacca	2,32,348	
Chittagong	1,60,885	
Rajshahye	3,20,013	
Patna	4,61,533	
Bhaugulpore	1,33,325	
Cuttack	1,91,397	
Chota Nagpore	1,30,832	
Assam	60,534	
Total	18,87,825	

to the extent of Rupees 18,87,825 have been carried out in the Divisions marginally noted during the years under review, and they have also been aided by liberal grants from Imperial Revenue.

6. The annexed Table II. shows the net amount which has been credited to the District Road Fund from 1st May 1861 to 31st March 1867, and Table III. shows the amount collected in each Division. These figures have been taken from the Statements given by the Accountant-General, Bengal, as published annually in the Sketch-Estimates, and shew the result noted in margin; but from the correspondence which has recently taken place, it would appear that these figures are subject to some modification on the final closing of the Provincial Books.

7. The net collection of tolls at ferries forms the largest item of receipts, being

equal to two-fifths of the whole amount, or an average of about 3½ lakhs of Rupees per annum. The next largest item is the surplus profits of Jail manufactures, but there is in this item a tendency to decrease, owing to the recent orders of the Government of India for the employment of convicts on Jail works. Tolls on District Roads now yield about Rupees 85,000 per annum, but the income thus derived has not, in recent years, shewn any tendency to increase, and it is generally considered as an objectionable and obstructive mode of raising revenue, which should be abolished, if possible on Local Roads, as it has been abolished on Imperial Roads. The receipts from fisheries in navigable rivers yielded about Rupees 40,000 per annum, but this has been transferred to Imperial Revenue since 1st May 1865 under orders of the Financial Department. In Shahabad there is a special road cess of one per cent. on the land revenue, which yields about Rupees 25,000 per annum, which is about the amount expended in the district on the repairs of roads only. The area of this district is 4,388 square miles, and it possesses 512 miles of road.

8. In addition to the local sources of revenue abovementioned, the surplus collection of tolls on the Nudda Rivers and Calcutta Canals, after defraying all charges for the maintenance of those works, has been made available for the Road Fund since 1854-55, and yielded on an average about three lakhs of rupees per annum, but there has been a tendency, within the past year or two, to a decrease in the amount of toll collections, owing to the diversion of the traffic of the rivers to the Railways. The Road Fund also received in 1863-64 a grant of the old accumulated balances of the Ferry Fund to the extent of Rupees 6,96,620, and in the last two years under review, it received grants from the Imperial Revenue to the amount of upwards of 12 lakhs. These extraordinary sources of income cannot be looked for in future years, and this, together with the cessation of the one per cent. Income Tax Fund, has reduced the amount which is available in future for local works, to about 3rds of the amount available during the years under review.

9. The outlay on local roads during each year in each Commissionership is shewn in Tables IV, V, and VI., from which the following abstract is taken. This outlay does not include the one per cent. income tax :—

DIVISIONS.	Amount of Local Fund collected during the 6 years.	OUTLAY DURING THE 6 YEARS.				REMARKS.
		Original Works.	Repairs.	Establishment.	Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Presidency	16,53,653	21,33,929	7,48,834	3,52,839	32,35,602	COLLECTIONS. Rs. Local Fund, less deficits General Fund Grants-in-aid Contributions Total, Rs.
Dacca	3,26,414	2,12,078	1,65,954	42,312	4,20,344	
Chittagong	3,12,473	1,40,429	1,38,996	19,732	2,99,157	
Assam	3,86,815	86,703	2,20,273	14,337	3,21,313	
Rajshahye	5,39,302	2,70,385	3,12,463	1,11,753	6,94,600	
Bhaugulpore	2,81,298	5,80,278	2,71,277	55,891	9,07,446	
Patna	12,84,508	6,16,976	6,96,049	1,74,636	14,87,661	
Chota Nagpore	39,343	1,18,794	97,431	16,104	2,32,329	
Burdwan	6,23,395	8,10,648	5,80,099	1,72,719	15,63,466	
Cuttack	1,31,556	88,566	75,966	20,664	1,85,196	
Total	56,10,142	50,58,786	33,07,341	9,80,987	93,47,114	

10. It will be noticed that Chittagong and Assam are the only Divisions in which the outlay on local roads has been less than the collections made therein during the period. The Divisions which have received the largest amount of aid are the Presidency, Burdwan, and Bhaugulpore, the Divisions in which the Railway feeders have been in progress; the last published statement of the outlay of the Road Fund shows that in the Presidency Division alone upwards of 17 lakhs of Rupees have been spent on 161 miles of metalled Railway feeders in the six years under notice.

11. Among the larger and more important works which have been in progress during the six years under review are the following; the outlay that has been incurred on each up to the close of 1866-67 also shewn :—

IMPERIAL.

	Rupees.
1. Earthwork and Bridges, Assam Trunk Road	5,69,611
2. Gowhatty and Shillong Road	1,28,000
3. Metalling the Ganges and Darjeeling Road, with extension to Silligoree ..	6,45,084
4. Darjeeling Cart Road	18,62,360
5. Gyah and Patna Road	7,54,285
6. Bridging Burhee and Hazareebaugh Road	1,01,697
7. Metalling Chowparun and Chuttra Road	84,126
8. Burrakur, Morhur and Booryah Bridges on the Grand Trunk Road ..	18,13,077
9. Bridging and metalling Cuttack Trunk Road	9,16,943
10. Ditto ditto Pooree Road	1,05,841
11. Opening out and bridging Cuttack and Sonopore Road	1,25,940
12. Bridging and metalling the Sooree and Bhaugulpore Road	1,65,083

LOCAL.

13. Metalling the Calcutta and Jessore Road	1,19,749
14. Metalling the Tumlook Road	54,112
15. Constructing RaneeGUNGE and Doobrajapore Road	1,23,581
16. Ditto Pooroolia Road	1,04,787
17. Ditto Burhee and Behar Road	2,56,651
18. Improving roads from Hajeeapore and Dulsingserai to Mozufferpore ..	79,379
19. Constructing Nattore and Ganges Road	2,52,085
20. Remodelling Sylhet and Cachar Road	2,43,009
21. Bridging Dacca and Chittagong Road, and metalling 8 miles near Dacca ..	1,55,126
22. Constructing Railway Feeders to Eastern Bengal Railway	17,21,453
23. Ditto ditto to East Indian Railway in Burdwan	4,87,109
24. Ditto ditto ditto in Bhaugulpore	4,21,982
25. Muddehpoorah Road in Bhaugulpore	1,10,746

Divisions.	Outlay.
	Rs.
Presidency	2,25,841
Burdwan	2,60,712
Patna	3,77,981
Bhaugulpore	1,67,905
Rajshahye	1,23,756
Dacca	1,61,945
Chittagong	1,40,086
Assam	37,794
Chota Nagpore	1,18,794
Cuttack	88,688
Total	16,92,630

12. The outlay on the roads though large has not been commensurate with the requirements of the country, and though many of the aboveworks have been carried out from Local Funds, they are all more or less of an imperial character. The expenditure on the improvement and bridging of purely District Roads, during the six years, has not exceeded 17 lakhs of Rupees, being the amount of the Local Fund expenditure on Original Works, as shewn by Table IV.

13. As regards repairs, the outlay of the six years has been on—

Imperial Roads, 3,448 miles	Rs. 42,85,661
Local „ 13,377 „	„ 33,07,341

Total, Rupees 75,93,002

14. The cost of maintaining the 1,344

Names of Roads.	Length.	Outlay of	Per mile
		three years.	for three years.
		Rs.	Rs.
Grand Trunk Road	439	8,53,999	1,953
Bhapore	17½	1,03,847	5,806
Hazareebaugh	22½	8,953	399
Chuttra	30	3,384	109
*Patna Branch	80	59,729	747
*Darjeeling	183	35,911	271
Kishnaghar	11	7,040	640
Bugwagolah	18	23,289	1,294
*Bhaugulpore	110	26,312	240
*Jessore	67	97,927	1,391
Midnapore and Raneeunge Road	96	73,748	768
Cuttack Trunk Roads	229	1,36,190	585
24-Pergunahs	68	1,71,740	2,525
Calcutta Maidan Road	12	2,12,830	17,735
Dum-Dum Road	8	11,463	0,494
Narnunge Road	8	6,022	803
Total	1,344	17,99,393	1,349

* These roads are not yet completed as metalled roads.

7,000 cubic feet metal, at Rs. 6 per 100 c. ft.	Rs. 420
Spreading and consolidating ditto	80
Petty repairs and maintenance	100
Repairs to bridges, &c.	20
Total, Rs.	620

amount which is necessary to keep the roads in an efficient state of repair. At present the total amount of the Local Fund may be taken at nine lakhs of rupees, but this amount is decreasing, as noted in paragraphs 6 and 7; so that not only are the present sources of income insufficient to carry out any improvement on roads, but even if applied solely to the purpose of repairs they would be barely sufficient to maintain existing roads in proper order. The surplus toll collections on the Nuddea Rivers and Calcutta Canals, which have formed the nucleus of the General Fund, from which the most important feeder roads have been constructed, have, as previously mentioned, also shown a tendency to decrease.

16. Although there can be no doubt that the present sources of Local Revenue are entirely insufficient for the extension and improvement of existing District Roads, it would be difficult to form any estimate of the amount required for the purpose. To convert the 13,000 miles of unmetalled District Roads of Bengal into metalled and bridged roads would require at least 13 millions Sterling, exclusive of establishment, a sum far beyond the probable means of the local Government to provide, and the cost of maintenance would also increase year by year from the present required amount of 11 lakhs, to about 80 lakhs per annum. To convert the roads into properly raised and bridged roads, omitting the metalling, would require from 6 to 7 millions Sterling and even this is far beyond any amount likely to be available for many years to come.

17. Any practicable estimate must therefore be based merely upon the amount which could be

	Rupees.
* For new works, including the bridging and metalling of existing roads	20,00,000
For repairs and maintenance of roads	11,00,000
For establishment	6,00,000
Total, Rs.	36,00,000

of the year 1864-65, when upwards of 53 lakhs was spent.

18. Assuming that the present sources of income of the Amalgamated District Roads' Fund, Local and General, would remain at 11 lakhs, this would leave 25 lakhs per annum to be provided from other local sources. An estimate shewing approximately the amount that should be provided in each Division is given in Table VII.

miles of Imperial metalled roads, as noted in the marginal table, for the three years, 1864-65 to 1866-67, has been Rupees 17,99,393, giving an average of Rupees 447 per mile per annum. The cost of metal forms the chief item of outlay, and this varies much in different districts. In the 1st Division, Grand Trunk Road, 148 miles in length, the quantity of metal used in the last 16 years has been 212 lakhs of cubic feet, collected at an average cost of Rupees 5-11-10 per 100 cubic feet, or about 9,000 cubic feet per mile per annum. The marginal table can scarcely be considered as shewing a fair average of the cost of roads, which have been opened to traffic for some years, as several of the roads have only recently been metalled and some are still in progress, and we must be prepared to look for increased expenditure under this head when the roads which have been converted into metalled roads within the last year or two, require the annual periodical renewal. Taking the average rates of Bengal, the cost of maintenance of 1 mile of metalled road may be assumed at Rupees 620 per mile per annum, which is about 10 times the amount required for the proper maintenance of unmetalled roads.

15. For the ordinary repairs of District Roads the outlay for the six years has been 31 lakhs of Rupees, and allowing one mile of metalled road as equal to ten miles of unmetalled road, the average outlay has been about 30 Rupees per mile per annum, which is somewhat less than one-half the

spent with advantage, without interfering greatly with the labor of the country, or the means available for the supervision and carrying out of work; this perhaps may be assumed at 36 lakhs* of Rupees per annum, which, together with the Imperial outlay assumed at 24 lakhs, would make a total of 60 lakhs for the province, an outlay somewhat larger than that

F. R. BOYCE,

Controller of P. W. Accounts, Bengal.

Statement showing the total outlay incurred in the Lower Provinces of Bengal, in the construction and maintenance of Roads from the 1st May 1861 to 31st March 1867.

YEAR.	IMPERIAL FUND.			DISTRICT ROAD FUND.			Grand Total.	REMARKS.
	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.		
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	
1861-62	9,35,171	5,91,597	15,26,768	5,45,450	4,10,292	9,55,732	24,82,500	
1862-63	12,10,493	5,54,984	17,65,487	8,75,597	5,21,418	13,97,010	31,62,497	
1863-64	19,50,000	8,95,000	27,55,000	8,49,503	5,00,879	13,50,282	41,05,282	
1864-65	18,96,484	9,33,089	28,29,573	14,05,911	6,21,797	20,27,708	48,57,281	
1865-66	14,68,165	7,31,112	21,99,277	8,69,363	6,82,814	15,52,177	37,51,454	
1866-67	15,20,392	6,69,869	21,90,261	6,12,561	5,70,356	10,82,917	32,79,178	
One per cent. Income Tax	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,67,825	
Total	89,50,705	42,95,561	1,32,46,266	50,58,485	33,07,341	83,65,826	2,35,20,017	Exclusive of the amount expended on works, 34 lakhs may be put down as the expenditure on Establishment for Imperial Works, and Rupees 2,80,887 as the cost of Establishment on District Road Fund Works.

No. II.

Statement of total Receipts from each source of Amalgamated Roads' Fund from 1861-62 to 1866-67 inclusive.

Source of Receipts.	YEARS.							REMARKS.
	1861-62.	1862-63.	1863-64.	1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67.	Total.	
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	
LOCAL FUND.								
Ferry Collections ...	3,82,937	3,55,863	3,57,381	2,24,671	5,44,658	3,26,205	22,01,615	
Tolls on District Roads ...	31,324	43,759	76,110	67,535	92,191	83,585	3,97,504	
Convict Labor Fund ...	1,28,872	3,43,260	3,29,114	6,62,065	2,01,182	2,80,481	19,41,924	
Cattle Trespass ..	60,947	67,706	75,972	64,225	72,581	63,951	4,05,382	
River Fisheries ...	25,128	30,833	36,906	63,302	41,780	.....	1,97,949	
Road Cess Fund ...	12,494	16,025	19,579	22,123	23,475	27,981	1,21,677	
Improvement of Government Estates	.....	25,580	56,873	43,413	45,252	84,850	2,55,968	
Three per cent. Land Revenue of temporarily settled Estates	.....	70,179	23,789	31,002	.....	.....	1,24,970	
Receipts from other sources	184	11,120	778	.....	.....	2,061	14,143	
	6,39,786	9,66,326	9,76,502	11,78,335	10,21,119	8,79,064	56,61,132	
Deduct deficits ...	25,321	26,549	12,690	8,121	1,98,448	65,299	3,34,428	
Total Local Fund Receipts ...	6,14,465	9,39,777	9,63,812	11,70,214	8,24,671	8,13,765	53,26,704	
GENERAL FUND.								
Net Toll Collections on Nudda Rivers and Calcutta Canals ...	74,050	3,02,555	3,95,832	91,747	3,17,653	3,65,721	15,47,558	
Grants-in-aid from other sources	.....	.....	6,96,820	64,376	5,54,130	7,00,000	20,15,126	
Total ...	6,88,515	12,42,332	20,59,634	13,26,337	16,96,454	18,79,486	68,89,988	

Statement of Local Fund Receipts of each Division from 1861-62 to 1866-67.

DIVISIONS.	YEARS.							REMARKS.
	1861-62.	1862-63.	1863-64.	1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67.	Total.	
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	
Presidency ...	90,185	2,40,074	2,97,441	6,17,697	2,11,086	1,88,320	16,53,053	* Including Alipore Jail profits.
Burdwan ...	62,059	1,34,560	1,07,283	90,019	1,23,602	85,889	6,23,395	
Bhaugulpore ...	39,585	58,341	64,957	52,697	29,007	31,028	2,78,815	
Chota Nagpore ...	2,355	7,281	9,577	6,777	2,672	10,881	39,343	
Patna ...	1,02,649	1,97,500	2,11,502	1,28,517	3,35,450	2,48,890	12,84,508	
Rajshahye ...	79,301	90,980	78,089	85,219	90,055	1,19,247	5,42,891	
Dacca ...	29,452	61,297	49,344	50,289	63,814	72,008	3,26,414	
Chittagong ...	25,166	79,963	58,080	40,709	38,915	69,640	3,12,473	
Assam ...	66,768	39,049	65,375	82,307	61,670	71,643	3,86,816	
Cuttack ...	29,211	80,832	21,871	16,083	19,193	14,366	1,31,556	
Net Tolls on Ferries by Public Works Department ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12,030	12,030	
Total ...	6,15,691	9,39,777	9,63,812	11,70,214	9,75,464	9,26,745	55,91,693	
Deduct Deficits ...	1,216	.....	.....	.....	1,50,763	1,12,990	2,64,989	
Grand Total of Receipts	6,14,485	9,39,777	9,63,812	11,70,214	8,24,671	8,13,765	53,26,704	

No. IV.

Statement shewing the outlay on Original Works from the Amalgamated District Road Fund (Local and General) from 1861-62 to 1866-67 inclusive.

DIVISIONS.	YEARS.							TOTAL.	OF WHICH THERE HAS BEEN EXPENDED FROM	
	1861-62.	1862-63.	1863-64.	1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67.			Local Fund.	General Fund.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.		Rupees.	Rupees.
Presidency ...	2,09,164	3,40,147	2,97,524	6,98,537	3,68,231	2,30,326	21,33,929	2,25,341	19,08,588	
Burdwan ...	64,583	1,02,549	1,04,353	1,59,300	1,87,404	1,32,399	8,10,648	2,60,712	5,49,936	
Patna ...	74,145	77,790	1,42,587	2,07,943	82,026	32,485	6,16,976	3,77,921	2,39,055	
Bhaugulpore ...	83,000	1,12,967	92,855	1,47,143	1,09,945	34,067	5,79,977	1,57,995	4,21,982	
Rajshahye ...	76,669	56,882	53,823	48,171	19,963	14,978	2,70,385	1,23,756	1,46,629	
Dacca ...	10,614	26,169	43,822	50,574	32,967	27,932	2,12,078	1,61,985	50,093	
Chittagong ...	7,015	34,126	49,039	39,449	2,521	8,279	1,40,429	1,40,006	305	
Assam ...	2,172	19,514	20,508	13,984	16,362	12,103	86,703	37,794	48,909	
Chota Nagpore ...	13,565	33,278	25,744	18,583	14,084	13,540	1,18,794	1,18,794	.....
Cuttack ...	4,623	12,175	9,289	22,227	33,800	6,452	88,566	88,566	.....
Total ...	5,45,450	8,75,597	8,49,603	14,05,911	8,69,363	5,12,561	50,58,485	16,92,930	33,65,555	

Statement showing the outlay on repairs from the Amalgamated District Road Fund (Local and General) from 1861-62 to 1866-67 inclusive.

DIVISIONS.	YEARS.						TOTAL.	OF WHICH THERE HAS BEEN EXPENDED FROM	
	1861-62.	1862-63.	1863-64.	1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67.		Local Fund.	General Fund.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.		Rupees.	Rupees.
Presidency	84,972	1,32,579	1,32,917	1,36,940	1,41,704	1,19,659	7,48,834	6,80,161	59,673
Burdwan	38,360	89,182	47,117	1,35,115	1,43,783	1,26,542	5,80,099	4,72,137	1,07,962
Patna	1,23,258	1,03,077	1,22,603	1,21,782	1,19,309	1,06,020	6,96,049	6,91,955	4,094
Bhaugulpore	27,787	28,089	52,880	51,136	66,141	44,642	2,71,277	2,36,836	32,441
Rajshahye	44,743	54,808	49,820	39,847	70,524	52,720	3,12,432	3,12,432	.....
Dacca	25,626	37,175	20,965	28,458	31,483	22,247	1,65,954	1,65,954	.....
Chittagong	19,522	26,315	27,185	26,431	23,310	16,233	1,38,996	1,38,996	.....
Assam	28,365	35,823	25,759	41,718	50,062	38,546	2,20,273	2,10,091	4,182
Chota Nagpore	9,317	4,499	5,846	27,622	21,895	28,262	97,431	97,431	.....
Cuttack	8,332	9,206	15,587	12,737	14,543	15,501	75,966	75,966	.....
Total	4,10,282	5,21,413	5,00,679	6,21,797	6,82,814	5,70,350	33,07,341	30,99,019	2,08,322

Statement showing the outlay on Establishment from the Amalgamated District Road Fund (Local and General) from 1861-62 to 1866-67 inclusive.

DIVISIONS.	YEARS.						TOTAL.	OF WHICH THERE HAS BEEN EXPENDED FROM	
	1861-62.	1862-63.	1863-64.	1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67.		Local Fund.	General Fund.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.		Rupees.	Rupees.
Presidency	23,395	40,546	36,406	1,18,209	87,341	46,852	3,52,839	83,718	2,69,121
Burdwan	15,899	18,859	28,673	28,517	45,820	34,951	1,72,719	58,948	1,13,771
Patna	24,595	27,962	27,454	38,577	28,783	27,315	1,74,636	1,42,665	31,971
Bhaugulpore	7,418	21,433	19,983	29,258	24,394	9,267	1,11,753	31,531	80,222
Rajshahye	13,115	9,461	9,947	10,429	6,684	6,255	55,801	50,928	4,903
Dacca	3,126	7,273	7,181	8,975	9,115	6,642	42,312	42,019	293
Chittagong	2,232	3,333	3,592	4,007	3,815	2,753	19,732	19,660	72
Assam	1,103	2,520	3,059	3,169	2,979	1,447	14,337	10,482	3,855
Chota Nagpore	346	189	4,143	3,141	4,008	4,196	16,104	16,104	.....
Cuttack	1,394	1,957	4,191	4,512	5,103	3,504	20,664	20,664	.....
Total	92,683	1,33,624	1,44,632	2,48,884	2,18,982	1,43,182	9,80,987	4,76,719	5,04,268

Estimate of the probable annual requirements of funds in each Division for the maintenance of existing roads and the construction of new roads, shewing the amount of Local Funds at present available and the amount of the additional funds required.

DIVISIONS.	LENGTH OF ROADS IN EACH DIVISION.			PROBABLE AMOUNT REQUIRED FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF ROADS.				Amount available from present sources of Local Funds.	Further probable amount required.
	Metalled Roads.	Unmetalled Roads.	Total.	For improvements and construction of additional Roads.	For maintenance of existing Roads.	For Establishment.	Total.		
				Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Presidency ...	168	759	921	3,00,000	1,50,000	73,000	5,23,000	2,50,000	2,73,000
Dacca ...	...	681	681	1,50,000	40,000	30,000	2,20,000	80,000	1,40,000
Chittagong ...	...	521	521	1,00,000	30,000	20,000	1,50,000	70,000	80,000
Assam ...	...	1,581	1,581	2,50,000	1,00,000	56,000	4,06,000	80,000	3,26,000
Rajahmundry ...	36	2,000	2,036	1,50,000	1,50,000	48,000	3,48,000	1,00,000	2,48,000
Bhaugulpore ...	22	1,550	1,572	2,00,000	1,10,000	50,000	3,60,000	1,00,000	2,60,000
Patna ...	77	3,407	3,484	2,50,000	2,50,000	80,000	5,80,000	2,50,000	3,30,000
Chota Nagpore ...	...	1,147	1,147	2,00,000	70,000	44,000	3,14,000	20,000	2,94,000
Burdwan ...	195	1,025	1,220	2,50,000	1,80,000	70,000	5,00,000	1,20,000	3,80,000
Cuttack ...	...	264	264	1,50,000	20,000	29,000	1,99,000	90,000	1,09,000
Total ...	498	12,879	13,377	20,00,000	11,00,000	5,00,000	36,00,000	11,00,000	25,00,000

Exemption of Timber and Woods from Import Duty.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay.—(No. 2472, dated Port William, the 20th April 1868.)

In reply to your letter No. 1377, dated the 8th instant, I am desired to state, that the term "woods" must be taken to be ejusdem generis with timber, and that under this construction only woods, which are not wrought or manufactured, will be exempt from duty under Act XI. of 1858.

Ordered, that a copy of the foregoing, and of the letter to which it is a reply, be forwarded to the Governments of Bengal and Madras, and the Chief Commissioner, British Burmah, with the request that they will regulate their proceedings regarding the levy of Customs duty in conformity with the foregoing decision.

R. H. HOLLINGBERRY,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

From F. R. S. WYLLIE, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay to E. H. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department.—(No. 1377, dated Bombay Castle, the 8th April 1868.)

I AM directed to forward to you, for submission to the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter* from the Acting Commissioner of Customs, Salt and Opium, at this Presidency, regarding the "Bill to exempt timber and woods from Import duty," published in the *Gazette of India* of 21st ultimo, and to state that the Right Honorable the Governor in Council is of opinion that all the articles mentioned under the present Tariff heading No. 60, "timber and woods," should be exempted from Import duty, with the exception of the items "cabinet ware," including furniture and carriages, and carriage materials.

From C. J. DAVIES, Esq., Acting Commissioner of Customs, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.—(No. 994, dated Bombay, the 28th March 1868.)

At page 304 of the *Gazette of India* for March 21st, 1868, I observed the draft of "a Bill to exempt timber and woods from Import duty." I presume that the object is to exempt timber and woods in the rough from Import duty, and I, therefore, have the honor to request that you will bring to the notice of His Excellency the Governor in Council that if the Bill is passed in its present shape, it will have a much wider effect than is probably intended. As it stands, the Bill will strike out from the present Tariff heading No. 60, "timber and woods." This heading includes not only timber and woods in the rough, but also several other items, viz.:—

- (a).—Deal and pine Planks and boards.
- (b).—Sandalwood.
- (c).—Manufactures of wood including pipes, staves and casks.

2. During the official year 1866-67 the sum of Rupees 2,446 was paid as Import duty on Deal on pine planks and boards (a), and Rupees 5,524 on other kinds of planks and boards. Total Rupees 7,970. It may, however, be thought proper to extend to planks and boards the exemption which it is proposed to confer on timber and woods in the rough. It would, however, be an extension of the principle set forth in the "statement of objects and reasons" to extend this exemption to worked planks and boards.

3. During the same year the Import duty on bastard sandalwood (b) amounted to Rupees 330, and on other kinds of wood classed with it in the Trade Returns as "Ornamental," the duty amounted to Rupees 634. Total Rupees 964. No dutiable real sandalwood or blackwood was imported. None of these woods can be properly considered as timber, and they appear to be rightly classed in the Trade Returns as "Ornamental." In the Tariff, however, sandalwood forms an item by itself; the other ornamental woods are dutiable under "other sorts." Looking to the small amount of the duty derived from these woods, it might be expedient to exclude them from the Tariff, but it would scarcely be proper to do so on the grounds given in the "statement of objects and reasons."

4. The item (c) "manufactures of wood, including pipes, staves and casks," includes more important articles, some of which, with the amount of duty paid thereon during the above year, are shewn hereunder:—

	Rs.
Cabinet Ware (including furniture) ...	13,776
Carriages and conveyances other than Railway, complete ...	13,460
Carriages, parts of, including coach-builders' materials, not otherwise described...	4,167
Carriages, Railway, and parts of ...	2,855
Lacquered Wares ...	60
Casks and barrels, made up, or in shooks	977
All other varieties of Cooper's Wares ...	120
Total, Rupees ...	35,415

There are many other articles dutiable under this head, petty by themselves, but collectively considerably swelling the amount of duty.

5. I beg also to call attention to the following items in the Trade Return for the above year:—

	Rs.
Parts of, and materials for, repairing and building ships and boats, not otherwise described ...	6,773
Must, spar, and oar pieces ...	350
Total, Rupees ...	7,123

Portions of these two items are dutiable as "manufactures of wood;" the other portions are dutiable as "other sorts."

Marriage among the Kols.

From COLONEL E. T. DALTON, Commissioner of Chota Nagpore, to H. L. DAMPIER, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 911, dated Chota Nagpore, the 17th April 1868.)

It has been from early days the custom of the Coles of Singhbhum to dispose of their daughters in marriage only to suitors who could give in exchange for the girls a large number of cattle besides cash.

2. The system has for many years acted as a great restriction on marriage, for girls of good family 40 to 50 head of cattle were demanded, and a poor man could rarely obtain a bride unless he could part with at least 20, consequently the number of unmarried grown up girls has in every Cole village in Singhbhum increased to an extent that must be detrimental to their morality.

3. All officers who have had charge of the Colehan have noticed the system as pernicious and desired to abrogate it, but the Cole fathers of the old school would not consent to lower their demands.

4. I have now the honor to submit copy of a communication* from Doctor W. H. Hayes, Deputy Commissioner, from which I learn with pleasure that at a large meeting convened by him it was unanimously resolved that in future the fee demanded should

* No. 79, dated 15th April 1868.

be no longer restrictive, and the moderate rate that has been adopted will deprive bachelors at least of this pretence for holding back.

5. There will be no difficulty in introducing a system of registration of marriages by which the success of the movement and sincerity of its promoters will be tested.

From DR. W. H. HAYES, Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum, to the Commissioner of Chota Nagpore,—(No. 79, dated Chyebassa, the 13th April 1868.)

I HAVE the honor to report in regard to the Cole custom of selling the daughters to the bridegrooms, an institution peculiar to the race, that the prices asked were so exorbitant, (40 and 50 head of cattle being common,) as to cause for some years past a falling off in the number of marriages and an increased immoral intimacy between the two sexes. I think I am not wrong in stating that every District Officer who has been here and who has taken any interest in the Coles has endeavoured to advise them to alter their custom on this point, but unfortunately without success. I myself have failed up to this, but it is a most pleasing duty to me now to report that the people have at last yielded their prejudices in regard to it. The evils resulting from the exorbitant demands for the Cole ladies have been recently very frequent, and in taking the opinion of the most intelligent of the Coles as to devising a remedy, I discovered that they themselves seemed prepared for a change, but that no person would take the initiative. I now convened a Panchayet, and I am happy to be able to state that it was resolved by all the Mankis and leading men that the bride's Pun or price in future was not to exceed 10 head of cattle,—this also was nominal, as the 10 head will include a pair of oxen, a cow and Rupees 7, and for the poor only Rupees 7 without any cattle.

This change I would respectfully note is a very remarkable event in the history of the Coles.

From A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Chota Nagpore,—(No. 2086, dated the 20th April 1868.)

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 911, dated the 17th instant, with annexure, and in reply to convey to you an expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's gratification at the happy change wrought by the Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum in the long standing custom prevalent among the Kols of that District of refusing to give their daughters in marriage save on payment of enormous fees by the intending bridegroom.

2. If the reform proves to be a real and permanent one His Honor observes that Dr. Hayes will have the satisfaction of feeling that he has effected a change, the good effects of which it is difficult to over-estimate.

3. I am to request that after a time you will be so good as to report, for the Lieutenant-Governor's information, whether the resolution now made by the Kols appears to be generally acted upon by them.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 1st to 7th May 1868.

MONTH.	Date	Reduced Reading of Barometer at 10 A. M.	THERMOMETER.		Daily Range of the Temperature.	Mean Temperature for the day.	Mean Wet Bulb.	Computed Mean Dew-point.	Mean Degree of humidity for the day.	Prevailing Direction of Wind during the day.	Rain.	Max : Pressure of Wind.		Daily Velocity of Wind.	GENERAL REMARKS.
			Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.								Inches.	°	Miles.	
May	1st	29.614	96.0	81.0	15.0	87.3	81.6	78.0	0.73	S S by W & S S W	...	...	...	195.8	Chiefly clear Brisk wind from 8½ to 11 A. M.
	2nd	29.655	98.0	79.8	13.6	86.0	80.6	76.8	.76	S S by W & S by E	...	0.8	...	375.0	Clear and scattered cirri. Brisk wind at 8½ and from 11½ A. M. to 2½ P. M.
	3rd	29.690	95.4	81.0	14.4	86.9	81.1	77.6	.75	S S W & S	...	1.0	...	317.0	Scattered cirri and clear.
	4th	29.628	96.2	80.0	16.3	86.6	79.8	75.7	.71	S by W & S	...	1.0	...	199.8	Chiefly clear and Brisk wind at 7½ A. M.
	5th	29.659	96.3	80.8	15.0	86.7	77.6	75.2	.70	S & S by E	...	0.3	...	198.9	Chiefly clear.
	6th	29.63	98.0	80.0	16.0	87.7	80.8	75.9	.69	S	...	0.6	...	223.5	Clear and scattered cirri. Brisk wind from 5 to 10½ P. M.
	7th	29.697	96.3	81.0	15.8	87.1	81.1	77.6	.74	S & S S W	...	4.0	...	306.6	Clear and scattered clouds. Brisk wind from 9½ A. M. to 9½ P. M.

The mean Temperature and the mean Wet Bulb are derived from the twenty-four hourly Observations made during the day.

The Dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants. The figures in column ten represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity. The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1 foot 3 inches, and that of the Anemometer 70 feet 10 inches, above the level of the ground. The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's Anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of Temperature during the past seven days	...	...	18.2
The Max. Temperature during the past seven days	...	...	98.0
The Max. Temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	...	103.0
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	...	0.73
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	...	0.63

			Inches.
The total fall of rain from 1st to 7th	{ by lower rain gauge	...	Nil.
	{ by Anemometer gauge	...	Nil.
Ditto ditto from 1st to 7th, average of fourteen previous years	...	...	1.40
Ditto ditto between the 1st January and the 7th current	...	...	5.86
Ditto ditto during the corresponding period of the past year	...	...	3.21

The 12th May 1868.

GOPEENATH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

Meteorological Report up to 30th April 1883.

STATION.	April.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
CALCUTTA.			Inches.	°	°				Inches.	
	22nd	10	29.705	81	81	63	SSW	...	...	Sirri.
		16	29.689	98	77	85	WNW	...	...	Cumuli to E. horizon.
	23rd	10	29.818	88	73	46	E	...	...	Nimbi to W. rest cumuli and thunder.
		16	29.708	98	74	81	SSW	...	...	Clear.
	24th	10	29.854	90	80	63	SSW	...	...	Scattered cirrocumuli & scuds from S.
		16	29.708	89	70	82	WSW	...	...	Overcast.
	25th	10	29.846	88	79	76	SbyW	...	0.18	Scattered cumuli and scuds from S.
		16	29.770	70	67	84	ESE	...	2.10	Overcast nimbi and rain.
	26th	10	29.858	77	72	77	N by E	...	0.37	Scattered cumuli.
		16	29.710	86	76	60	W by S	...	...	Ditto.
	27th	10	29.819	88	80	76	S	...	...	Scattered cumuli and scuds from S.
		16	29.688	91	77	60	S	...	...	Scattered cumuli.
	28th	10	29.714	89	83	78	SSW	...	...	Cumuli.
		16	29.674	90	84	76	SW	...	...	Few scuds from S. W.
	29th	10	29.889	90	84	76	SW	...	...	Clear.
		16	29.684	97	87	66	S	...	...	Ditto.
	30th	10	29.790	91	84	73	SSW	...	...	Ditto.
		16	29.689	98	88	61	S	...	...	Ditto.
	22nd	9-30	29.627	87	82	79	SW	Light	...	Scattered clouds.
		16	29.629	89	83	76	SW	Light	...	Ditto.
	23rd	9-30	29.711	90	80	83	NE	Light	...	Cloudless.
		16	29.679	89	85	84	S	Light	...	A few scattered clouds.
	24th	9-30	29.788	87	82	83	SW	Moderate	...	Cloudy.
		16	29.645	88	81	79	S	High	...	Sky overcast with clouds.
	25th	9-30	29.767	84	78	76	SE	Light	...	Scattered clouds, rain and thunder storm at 10 hours yesterday.
SANDWICH ISLANDS.		16	29.662	85	78	71	SE	Moderate	...	Sky overcast with clouds.
	26th	9-30	29.768	76	74	96	SE	Light	...	Scattered clouds, heavy rain at 17 hours.
		16	29.646	81	78	80	SW	Light	...	Scattered clouds.
	27th	9-30	29.712	85	81	83	SW	Light	...	Ditto.
		16	29.605	87	82	79	SE	Light	...	Ditto.
	28th	9-30	29.658	87	83	83	SE	Moderate	...	Ditto.
		16	29.612	89	84	83	SW	Moderate	...	Heavy scattered clouds.
	29th	9-30	29.607	87	84	87	SW	Moderate	...	Sky overcast with clouds.
		16	29.642	89	84	84	SE	Light	...	Cloudy.
	30th	9-30	29.636	87	83	83	S	Moderate	...	Ditto.
		16	29.601	89	86	84	S	Light	...	Heavy.
	22nd	9-30	29.683	85	81	89	SW	Moderate	...	Cloudy horizon.
CHITTAGONG.		16	29.541	86	79	79	SSW	Light	...	Cumulostrati changing wind it blew strongly from S nearly all day.
	23rd	9-30	29.791	74	70	81	SE by E	Light	4.92	Heavy rain last evening and this morning.
		16	29.665	76	72	86	ENE	Light	1.50	Nimbi, weather clearing.
	24th	9-30	29.795	78	76	90	E	Light	...	Cumuli.
		16	29.516	81	79	91	SW	Light	...	Nimbi.
	25th	9-30	29.793	74	72	90	NNW	Light	1.50	Cumulostrati.
		16	29.688	79	74	77	SE	Light	...	Cloudy horizon.
	26th	9-30	29.731	77	73	81	ESE	Light	...	Cirrocumuli.
		16	29.608	80	76	78	S	Moderate	...	Unsteady wind, cloudy horizon.
	27th	9-30	29.706	79	75	82	SW	Light	...	Scattered cumuli.
		16	29.693	81	77	89	SSW	Light	...	Cirri and cirrocumuli.
	28th	9-30	29.669	89	78	82	S	Light	...	Cumuli moving towards N. W.
		16	29.841	84	80	83	S	Light	...	A few drops of rain this morning not measurable on steady wind.
	29th	9-30	29.658	84	80	83	S by E	Moderate	...	Stratoni cumuli in horizon towards east.
		16	29.588	85	82	87	S by E	Moderate	...	Cumuli moving northward.
	30th	9-30	29.717	85	82	87	S	Light	...	Thin clouds drifting northward.
		16	29.629	80	82	83	S	Light	...	Cumuli drifting northward.
	22nd	9-30	29.784	87	81	74	SW	Light	...	Ditto.
ARAB.		16	29.742	88	82	76	W	Light	...	Cloudy.
	23rd	9-30	29.826	86	81	79	SW	Light	...	Wye.
		16	29.804	83	74	63	SW	Light	...	Scattered cumuli.
									...	Cumulostrati, thunder to the N. W. wind veered to the N. A few drops of rain at sunset.
	24th	9-30	29.804	83	77	76	E	Light	...	Fine.
		16	29.794	87	81	76	W	Light	...	Ditto.
	25th	9-30	29.886	78	76	85	NE	Light	0.77	Heavy squall from N. W. accompanied with rain thunder and lightning at 7.45 a.m. cumulostrati to N. E.
		16	29.816	79	79	69	E	Light	...	A few drops of rain at 1.45 a.m. weather clearing.
	26th	9-30	29.840	77	74	86	E	Light	0.26	Drizzling at intervals this morning.
		16	29.768	82	75	70	SE	Light	...	Very cloudy.
	27th	9-30	29.820	81	77	82	E	Light	...	Fine.
		16	29.780	86	78	71	W	Light	...	
	28th	9-30	29.802	84	79	79	E	Light	0.20	Little rain this morning, threatening weather.
		16	29.768	83	79	87	SSW	Light	...	Cloudy.
	29th	9-30	29.804	87	82	79	S	Light	0.14	
		16	29.784	87	83	83	S	Light	...	
	30th	9-30	29.834	87	82	79	W	Light	...	
		16	29.782	89	83	10	SW	Light	...	

STATIONS.	April.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	Wind.		Rain.	WEATHER.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
			Inches.	⊖	⊖				Inches.	
22nd	18	9-30	29.760	93	73	85	W by N	Moderate...	...	Cirrocumuli, sultry and hazy.
		16	29.647	88	73	20	W by N	Light...	...	Cumulopetrati cirrocumuli, nimbi overhead and calm.
23rd	16	6-30	29.800	93	69	34	E by N	Moderate...	...	Cirrocumuli to N. N. W., sultry and hazy.
		16	29.751	85	77	41	E	Light...	...	Clear, misty horizon, unsteady wind.
24th	18	9-30	29.886	91	81	63	S	Moderate...	...	Scattered cirrocumuli and hazy, unsteady wind.
		18	29.803	78	72	73	N N E	Moderate...	0.10	Distant thunder in S. W. at 14-40, severe lightning, thunder with slight shower of rain and heavy N. W. at 16-30, covered with nimbi and drizzle; shower, clouds moving to N.
25th	16	9-30	29.854	83	81	76	S by W	Light...	...	Cirrocumuli, cirrocumuli, strati and hazy.
		16	29.736	65	81	83	S	Moderate...	0.7	Distant thunder in S. W. at 14-7, very severe lightning, thunder and good shower of rain at 14-30, slight shower at 15-20, cirrocumuli and nimbi.
26th	16	9-30	29.809	83	78	78	E by N	Light...	...	Scattered cirrocumuli and fine.
		16	29.683	93	70	46	E by N	Light...	...	Scattered cirri, cirrocumuli, cumulostrati E. S. E. horizon and calm.
27th	10	9-30	29.820	88	81	60	S S W	Light...	...	Scattered cirri, cirrocumuli and misty horizon.
		10	29.684	91	83	70	S	Moderate...	...	Cirrocumuli to S. W. & N. W. & misty horizon.
28th	10	9-30	29.774	90	83	73	S	Moderate...	...	Scattered cirrocumuli & sultry, Cirri to S. and misty, unsteady wind.
		10	29.610	94	83	61	S	Moderate...	...	Misty and calm, clear sky.
29th	16	9-30	29.765	92	83	67	S W	Light...	...	Sultry, misty horizon, unsteady wind.
		16	29.640	100	85	82	S	Light...	...	Sultry, misty and calm.
30th	16	9-30	29.839	91	82	58	E	Light...	...	Sultry and misty.
		16	29.694	98	68	61	S E.	Moderate...	...	
22nd	16	10	29.927	92	87	69	N W by W	8°	...	Fine.
		16	29.760	94	80	82	E S E	10°	...	Idio.
23rd	16	10	29.803	90	76	31	W S W	5°	...	Clear.
		16	29.694	93	82	60	E S E	12°	...	Idio.
24th	16	10	29.800	91	80	60	E S E	7°	...	Fine with light clouds.
		16	29.758	84	73	85	S E by S	16°	...	Clear.
25th	16	10	29.846	90	80	69	S E	17°	...	Idio.
		16	29.730	87	82	70	S E by S	17°	...	Idio.
26th	16	10	29.846	94	80	52	S W by S	12°	...	Thick haze.
		16	29.691	91	84	73	S S E	18°	...	Light hazy clouds.
27th	16	10	29.809	98	83	81	S S W	11°	...	Light haze.
		16	29.655	92	83	82	S S E	17°	...	Clear.
28th	16	10	29.777	95	80	40	S W by S	11°	...	Idio.
		16	29.661	90	82	60	S S E	19°	...	Idio.
29th	16	10	29.814	99	81	44	S W by S	13°	...	Idio.
		16	29.646	90	83	73	S S E	17°	...	Fine with light clouds.
30th	16	10	29.815	97	85	59	W	9°	0.4	Clear.
		16	29.693	97	89	54	S E	13°	...	Idio.
22nd	16	9-30	29.653	84	80	83	S S W	Moderate...	...	Cloudy.
		16	29.551	81	76	78	S E	Moderate...	...	Threatening storm.
23rd	16	9-30	29.730	81	79	91	S S E	Light...	...	Partially cloudy.
		16	29.615	83	70	83	S S E	Light...	...	Clear.
24th	16	9-30	29.810	81	79	91	S S E	Light...	...	Cloudy.
		16	29.735	79	76	83	S	...	1.90	Heavy gale since 12-35, sky overcast.
25th	16	9-30	29.828	78	74	81	E N E	Light...	0.50	Partially cloudy.
		16	29.708	80	75	78	S E	Light...	...	Threatening lightning.
26th	16	9-30	29.765	70	76	68	S E	Light...	...	Cloudy.
		16	29.631	81	75	74	S	Light...	...	Partially cloudy.
27th	16	9-30	29.753	80	76	83	S S W	Light...	...	Idio.
		16	29.616	84	76	71	S	Light...	...	Idio.
28th	16	9-30	29.645	83	81	91	S	Light...	...	Cloudy.
		16	29.541	81	78	85	S S W	Light...	0.80	Cloudy, heavy thunder and lightning since 14-10.
29th	16	9-30	29.633	84	88	95	S S W	Moderate...	...	Sultry.
		16	29.544	86	85	98	S	Fresh...	...	Cloudy.
30th	16	9-30	29.893	84	83	95	S S W	Fresh...	0.10	Very cloudy.
		16	29.583	86	86	91	S	Fresh...	...	Clear.
22nd	16	9-30	29.301	59	40	47	W	Moderate...	0.10	Very hazy, snow on hills to N. W.
		16	29.100	65	54	41	N W	Moderate...	...	Cumuli round horizon rest clear.
23rd	16	9-30	29.199	83	53	52	S E	Light...	...	Slight cumuli round horizon, rest clear. Delightful morning.
		16	29.094	67	55	41	W	Light...	...	Clear.
24th	16	9-30	29.153	67	54	81	E S E	Light...	...	Cumuli, nimbi.
		16	29.030	52	48	72	W S W	Moderate...	0.12	Overcast with nimbi.
25th	16	9-30	29.116	52	51	83	N E	Light...	0.20	Misty.
		16	29.188	43	40	54	W	Light...	...	Idio.

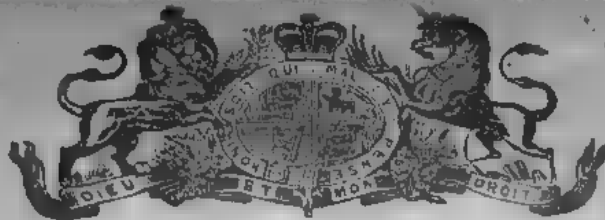
* Velocity in miles per hour.

STATIONS.	April.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
DARJEELING. (Contd.)			Inches.	⊖	⊖				Inches.	
	26th	P. 30	23.265	55	53	88	E	Light	0.12	Ditto.
	18		23.176	57	53	76	W N W	Light		Cirrocumuli.
	27th	P. 30	23.242	59	56	81	E by S	Light		Misty.
	10		23.201	60	57	82	W	Light		Rather misty, a few drops of rain about 11 hours.
	28th	P. 30	23.199	59	58	93	W by N	Light	0.05	Cirrocumuli, agreeable morning.
	18		23.087	64	60	78	W	Moderate		Scattered cumuli.
	29th	P. 30	23.120	61	60	94	E S E	Light		Misty.
	18		23.152	62	60	88	N W	Light		Rather misty.
	30th	P. 30	23.233	60	59	94	E S E	Light		Misty.
	18		23.173	67	61	69	W N W	Moderate		Scattered cumuli.
BENARES.	22nd	10	29.565				W	Light.		Strati.
	18		29.477				W	Strong		Irr.
	23rd	10	29.583				N W	Moderate		Cirrocumuli.
	18		29.483				W	Moderate		Strati.
	24th	10	29.630				N E			Cirrocumuli Strati.
	18		29.487				N E			Cumuli, cirrocumuli.
	25th	10	29.630				E			Ditto.
	18		29.491				N W			Ditto.
	26th	10	29.548				E	Moderate.		Cumuli.
	18		29.423				W	Light		Strati.
ROORKEE.	27th	10	29.511				E			
	18		29.397				W			
	28th	10	29.454				N W			Strati.
	18		29.334				W	Light		Ditto.
	29th	10	29.472				W			Ditto.
	18		29.309				W	Light		Ditto.
	30th	10	29.618				S W			Ditto.
	18		29.416				W	Light		Ditto.
	22nd	P. 30	28.933	79	63	36	N E		0.13	Northern horizon covered with cumuli. A few cumuli high up in S. E. sky.
	18		28.850	63	64	30	Calm			Cloudy.
PATNA.	23rd	P. 30	28.883	70	66	47	N W			
	18		28.828	88	65	23	N W			
	24th	P. 30	28.928	84	67	27	Calm			Northern sky covered with cumuli. Bright sunny day.
	18		28.800	61	68	25	N W			Bright sunny day, few patches of cumuli in N. sky.
	25th	P. 30	28.913	86	70	41	S W			S. E. wind from 8 hours till 13 hours. Bright sunny day.
	18		28.831	93	71	29	Calm			Thunder storm at 3-30.
	26th	P. 30	28.877	90	69	30	S E			Brisk S. E. wind from 1 till 16-30, clear.
	18		28.738	66	72	7	S E			S. E. from 8 hours till 11 hours. Hazy day.
	27th	P. 30	28.749	63	73	52	S E			Dull morning. N. W. wind at 11 hours. Very gentle.
	18		28.729	68	67	19	W			Bright sunny day.
MONGHYR.	28th	P. 30	29.632	91	68	25	Calm			
	18		28.709	94	67	21	N W			
	29th	P. 30	28.878	95	67	22	Calm			
	18		28.813	98	66	18	N W			
	17th	P. 30	29.614	84	72	59	E			Warm with E. wind.
	18		29.582	88	73	26	E			
	19th	P. 30	29.640	97	69	21	W			Warm with change of wind.
	18		29.394	101	72	23	N W			
	20th	P. 30	29.515	95	71	26	S W			Hazy.
	18		28.869	102	73	23	W N W			A livid sunset.
MONGHYR.	21st	P. 30	29.820	88	70	55	E			
	18		29.435	102	77	30	N W			
	22nd	P. 30	29.518	94	78	30	N W			Hot wind all day.
	18		29.426	98	69	21	N W			
	23rd	P. 30	29.523	92	68	24	N W			As crash of thunder at midnight with a heavy sprinkling of rain, strong W. wind all day.
	18		29.422	98	70	23	N W			Day clear with west wind cumulostratus in the evening.
	24th	P. 30	29.576	89	67	26	N W			Dusky rain in morning.
	18		29.494	95	66	19	N W			
	25th	P. 30	29.678	83	66	36	W			
	18		29.584	87	60	33	N W			
MONGHYR.	26th	P. 30	29.653	89	73	63	S E			Smart thunder during night.
	18		29.657	90	69	30	N E			
	27th	P. 30	29.604	83	72	50	N E			Warm.
	18		29.496	90	73	41	E			
	28th	P. 30	29.582	91	72	32	E			Warm and sultry.
	18		29.428	97	75	22	N			
	29th	P. 30	29.470	90	77	23	E			Ditto.
	18		29.347	101	75	26	N			
	30th	P. 30	29.470	89	77	26	E N E			Ditto.
	18		29.396	100	76	26	W N W			
MONGHYR.	21st	P. 30	29.600	90	76	50	W			Ditto.
	18		29.404	100	77	53	W			
	22nd	10	29.916	89	69	32				
	18		29.445	95	71	26				
	23rd	10	29.659	89	66	34				
MONGHYR.	18		29.493	85	71	26				
	24th	10	29.733	61	67	23				
	18		29.587	67	70	29				
	25th	10	29.760	74	71	55				
	18		29.585	84	71	60				

STATION.	April.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
MUSKERYE - Contd.	26th	10	29.687	85	73	54				
	16		29.497	84	72	30				
	27th	10	29.789	81	73	39				
	16		29.453	90	73	22				
	28th	12	29.532	91	79	58				
	12		29.380	100	75	27				
	29th	12	29.817	88	77	55				
	12		29.429	101	70	28				
	20th	10	29.491	89	76	49				
	12		29.449	103	73	23				
	19th	9.30	29.729	85	82	87	S W	...	...	Strong breezes and very hazy.
	12		29.808	88	82	88	S W	...	...	Ditto weather and Ditto.
PAIS FOLLY.	20th	9.30	No observation taken.							
	16									
	21st	9.30	29.709	85	82	87	Variable	...	...	Light weather and cloudy.
	16		29.587	80	83	87	S S W	...	...	Moderate breezes and hazy.
	22nd	9.30	29.679	85	82	87	S W	...	...	Ditto ditto.
	16		29.548	87	83	83	S W	...	...	Ditto ditto.
	23rd	9.30	29.729	83	80	79	N E	...	...	Moderate weather and fine.
	16		29.643	89	84	83	S E	...	...	Light ditto ditto.
	24th	9.30	29.754	87	84	87	S S W	...	...	Ditto air and sultry.
	16		29.647	86	83	87	S S W	...	...	Moderate breezes.
										Strong breezes and hazy, a N W. squall with thunder, lightning and small rain at 17 hours.
	25th	9.30	29.755	79	78	86	Variable	...	...	Moderate breezes, heavy thunder and lightning all round with rain at 7 A. M.
	16		29.680	81	78	88	Variable	...	...	Squally with thunder.

BENGAL SECRETARIAT,
The 12th May 1868. }

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to Govt. of Bengal.



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 1868.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

Elementary Vernacular Education for the Lower Classes.

From H. L. DANTIER, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.—(No. 177T, dated 11th May 1868.)

Master was based on a misconception, and it will also probably appear to His Excellency in Council that it is fairly made out that the system of vernacular education, which is now in question, is not open to the charge of being an expensive modification of Sir John Grant's original scheme, as stated in the 4th graph of the Financial R

but these points being admitted, the question, no doubt, remains whether the present scheme is organized on a more expensive footing than is really necessary. The Lieutenant-Governor desires me to assure the Government of India that this question shall receive the most careful enquiry and consideration on his part, but from all the information before him His Honor does not hesitate to express a strong belief that the scheme, so far as the village schools and inspection charges are concerned, is *not* on an extravagant footing, and that a reduction of the State support to this system of village schools could not be effected without seriously imperilling the whole arrangement. Whether any reduction may be feasible hereafter in the scheme of the training schools may perhaps admit of consideration, but the point is of minor importance. The Lieutenant-Governor would earnestly deprecate interference at present with any part of the system. As far as it has gone, it has certainly been attended with a fair measure of success, but it can hardly yet be said to have had a full trial. And if it is to be understood that the Government is to be earnest in promoting vernacular education among the people of the territories comprised in the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, I am inclined to submit that a very large extension of the system must necessarily be made.

the accompanying copy of the letter noted herein, and in request the opinion of the General in Council on the dated 11th May 1868.

considered that the Government should pay to the village schools that pay if required by the Government not above the limit of the amount of the grant (No. 177T, dated July 1864, from the Secretary to the Government of India) but do not exceed the sum of Rs. 1000 per annum for the whole of the territories.

for obtaining vernacular education as they now do, that the charge on the State (which may be generally estimated as amounting to one-half* the expenditure) can be reduced by any means short of direct taxation for educational purposes.

4. The Lieutenant-Governor considers it open to great question whether the real cost to the State at present of vernacular education in the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal is greater than in other provinces of the Bengal Presidency, as would seem to be implied in the Financial Resolution. From what is stated in Baboo Bhodeb Mookerjee's letter, it appears that the Teachers of the Halkabundi Schools in the North-Western Provinces receive, on an average, between 6 and 7 Rupees a month. This salary, it is presumed, is provided from the education cess, which cess is in reality a portion of the assessment on the land assigned by Government for the purposes of education. It is obvious that at the time the assessment of the land revenue was fixed in Bengal and Behar, a percentage might, with more justice than now in the North-Western Provinces, have been set aside for education, inasmuch as the Government took at that time a much larger portion of the gross assets as revenue than they do in settlements of the present day. And at the present day it might surely be contended with some justice, the education of the masses being in question, that the assignment for education of some portion of the tax which those masses pay for their Salt in excess of what is taken from the people of any other province, would have more support in reason than the similar assignment of a portion of the revenue in other provinces.

assignment of two annas only on the duty, Bengal Salt, after making a liberal deduction for account of the quantity which passes up for consumption in the North-Western Provinces, would yield a far larger educational cess than the so-called cess which is taken on the land revenue in either the North-Western Provinces or the Punjab. The Lieutenant-Governor considers that injustice may unintentionally be done to the people of Bengal if the idea be admitted that, in other provinces of the Bengal Presidency, there is a real educational tax, while in Bengal and Behar there is none; the real position of the case being that in the former instance modern policy has led to the specific appropriation of a portion of the land revenue on the occasion of a new settlement, to the purposes of education, and that in the latter instance there has been no such opportunity of making such an assignment, while it has not occurred to Government to do what might seem equally appropriate, when the education of the mass of the people is in question, viz., to assign specifically to that object a portion of the great revenue which is raised from the people and the soil of Bengal, as compared with any other province, by means of the Salt and the Abkaree and the Opium monopoly. The question strikes the Lieutenant-Governor as late to Salt, but not to the State.

to the general revenues of the State than the same classes in other provinces do, it seems to the Lieutenant-Governor that these people have some positive claim upon the general revenues, and that any reference to the relative position which the province they belong to may hold in respect of the contribution to the State by the Landholders of the province is irrelevant.

From W. S. ATKINSON, Esq., Director of Public Instruction, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,--(No. 1788, dated the 24th April 1867.)

I HAVE the honor to reply to your No. 1103, dated 4th March, forwarding a Resolution of the Government of India in the Financial Department, dated 2nd January 1867.

2. The first eight paragraphs of this Resolution discuss the financial details of the system of elementary vernacular education in operation under Baboo Bhodeb Mookerjee, and in accordance with the orders conveyed to me, I beg to submit the following remarks on the statements and arguments contained in them.

3. Paragraph 3 affirms that in the original scheme devised by Sir J. P. Grant, "the sum of Rupees 5 a month was considered sufficient pay for a village school Teacher, and it was proposed that the half of this, or Rupees 2-8 a month, or Rupees 30 a year, should be provided by Government, the remaining half being obtained by the Teacher as fees from his scholars", and again, paragraph 4 asserts that "Sir J. Grant considered that Government aid should be given in providing no village tutor with an aggregate income of Rupees 5 a month." Now, in the face of these distinct and positive statements, it is somewhat embarrassing to me to have to affirm, as it will no doubt be startling to the Lieutenant-Governor to discover, that the fact is the very reverse, and that Sir John Grant did unquestionably intend, as has all along been understood by this Department, and must, I should suppose, have been understood by the Government which sanctioned the scheme, that the local income of the Guru, assumed at Rupees month, should be supplemented by a Government contribution, and not that his aggregate income, including at this amount.

Sir, those obtain the n... I no can schola and it average sum ap not, on a... Lieutenant-G... a sum would a bigoted Teach... I cannot ima ing more than a comprehension. Government aid tutor with an s they did, it wo which was to a distinctly new pees 5 a m states, ha enquiries 1/2 year whole of the "

will be school but the p the app... Department... quote here... sent Resolution... says, "people ceives from he ces 36 a year... Taking the month, the for used

(No. 5876, 1867)

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst. last, No. 177, subject of Vernacular Education.

in this case will be much less than the Rupees 10 a month at which they are estimated in Bengal.

5. Under any circumstances, however, I cannot undertake to carry on a system of village schools in Bengal with a smaller amount of aid than that now sanctioned. But whether this amount might not be obtained from a local rate rather than from the Imperial Revenue, is an important question which is well worthy of the most careful consideration.

6. In regard to paragraph 8, I would beg to observe that I have certainly always understood that Sir Charles Wood's Despatch No. 17, dated 2nd July 1854, intended to give complete sanction to the details of the scheme proposed by this Department; and, taken in that sense, it certainly properly describes the plan as one "which possesses the great advantage of accomplishing its objects at very small expense." Assuming the population of Bengal at 40,000,000, I calculate that with the machinery of this plan we shall be able to provide elementary schools for the whole country at the rate of one school to each 100 of the population, at an annual charge of the State not much exceeding 20 lakhs of Rupees, or £200,000, including expenditure for inspection and administration; and I should hardly suppose that the Finance Department will consider this an excessive outlay for such a purpose, especially when it is informed that for England and Wales, with a population of 20,063,793, the expenditure from the Parliamentary grant, during the year ending 31st March 1866, amounted to no less a sum than £37,000 for day-scholars in elementary schools alone, exclusive of all charges for administration and inspection. At the same rate of expenditure in Bengal the charge would be about £750,000 for elementary schools, to which would have to be added about £150,000 for inspection, making a total of £900,000. It may well be said by an English Secretary of State that our present plan accomplishes its object at very small expense.

7. The 9th paragraph of the Resolution remarks on the additional annually required to the assignments for grant-in-aid. It does not seem to call for any lengthened comment on this occasion, but I wish to observe, in reference to the allusion to paragraphs 58, 61, and 62 of the Education Despatch of 1854, that there is no ground whatever for believing that any of our Government Schools or Colleges could be maintained in efficiency at a less cost under the grant-in-aid system than under present footing; and that even if the hint now put out were adopted, there would be no diminution of charge to the State on their account, except at the expense of impaired efficiency, which was certainly not contemplated by the authors of the Despatch and could not be desired by the present Government of India.

W. S. ATKINSON, Esq., Director of Public Instruction,
to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, —
(No. 1889, dated the 31st April 1867.)

Is continuation of my letter No. 1789, dated 24th April. I have the honor to forward herewith, for the information of Government, extracts from letter No. 100, dated April, from Baboo Bhoolah Mookerjee, Inspector of Schools, to my address, on the subject of the Financial Resolution of the 26th January.

Extract from a letter from Baboo Bhoolah Mookerjee, Inspector of Schools, to the Director of Public Instruction, No. 100, dated — April.

The Supreme Government recognise the object of the plan as proper and desirable (paragraph 2), but consider that, while under the scheme, as originally devised by Sir J. P. Grant, the total State allowance in rewards and contingencies to each school was limited to Rupees 30 per annum, and provided for the village Teacher an aggregate income of Rupees 5 only per month, subsequent modifications have rendered the scheme very expensive, and doubled the village Teacher's pay to Rupees 10 per mensem (paragraphs 3, 4), so that the Government pay on each village school has become exceptionally large in Bengal (paragraph 5), and given occasion to the necessity of providing such a large sum for the teacher as the means of providing (paragraph 6). Further, the cost of your estimate of Rupees 100 per school per annum (charge per school (paragraph 8) of the Despatch No. 17, dated 2nd July 1854, the Secretary of State, as a sanction, and desire that the local Government should estimate of the ultimate

cost of the scheme when it shall have been fully extended (paragraph 8). The following paragraph, No. 9, is on the subjects of grants-in-aid with which I am not concerned.

I beg to observe at the outset, that the correspondence on the subject of elementary vernacular education, which is printed in Appendix B, of your Education Report for 1862-63, and on which the Supreme Government base their considerations of the modified scheme in their Financial Resolution under remark, wants some important papers to make it complete: I allude to your No. 2873, dated the 18th December 1862, and its enclosure. It seems to me that, without having those papers before them, the Supreme Government could not be fully aware how the scheme, as originally devised, had to be gradually changed, and how, not until several experiments had been tried, that the force of circumstances pointed out those subsequent modifications, the adoption of which have led to the present rapid and unquestioned success of the measure.

I shall now proceed to show, as well as I can, that, in the modifications which the scheme has undergone, its cheapness has been steadily kept in view. In order to do this, I shall compare its present cost with what the cost would have been if it had been deemed practicable or advantageous to carry out the original scheme unchanged. In Government letter No. 633 of the 10th October 1860, it is stated under paragraph 7, that "books should be supplied to the schools at a very low price;" under paragraph 9, "that the schools should be supplied with the mechanical aids of which they have been hitherto destitute;" under paragraph 10, that "the reward to the Gurus should not exceed Rupees 30 or 36 per annum;" under paragraph 12, that "each Deputy Inspector would have 25 schools to look after in his circle;" under paragraph 13 that "100 indigenous schools in each district, costing 50 Rupees a year in all, would amount to Rupees 5,000 a year;" and that "the salaries of the Deputy Inspectors must be liberal; * * * * * qualified persons could not be secured for less than Rupees 100 a month including travelling allowances." Now, from the above, it is clear that, inclusive of inspection charges, Sir J. P. Grant contemplated three items of expenditure under his plan: (1st) rewards to Gurus, Rupees 30 or 36 per mensem; (2nd) books and contingencies, Rupees 20 per mensem; and (3rd) one Deputy Inspector to every 25 schools, at Rupees 1,200 per annum. If we calculate the cost under these several items for a district containing 1,000 schools, it would be as follows:—

	Rupees.
1,000 Schools, rewards	30,000
" Books and Contingencies	20,000
40 Deputy Inspectors, at Rupees 1,200 each	48,000
Total Rupees	98,000

Under the modified scheme, so far as it has yet developed itself, the cost of 1,000 schools, under the same calculations for travelling charges, ought to be as follows:—

	Rupees.
1,000 Schools, Stipends	60,000
25 Deputy Inspectors' pay and travelling, at Rupees 1,200 each	30,000
Contingencies	3,000
Total Rupees	93,000

But the fact is, that Sir J. P. Grant's calculation as to the travelling charges payable to Deputy Inspectors was evidently wrong. The aggregate allowance of each Deputy Inspector, inclusive of travelling, is not 100, but nearly 125 Rupees per month. Applying this correction, which could be done only after the experience we have now attained, the cost of 1,000 schools under the original plan would have been—

	Rupees.
(1.) Rewards	30,000
(2.) Contingencies	20,000
(3.) Inspection	72,000
Total Rupees	1,22,000

Under the modified scheme it is as shown below—

	Rupees.
(1.) Stipends	60,000
(2.) Contingencies	3,000
(3.) Inspection	45,000
Total Rupees	1,08,000

so far therefore from Sir J. P. Grant's scheme having been expensively modified, it has been, if any thing, rendered less costly.

Returning to the consideration of the Financial Resolution under remark, I beg most humbly to observe that the Supreme Government appear to have misread their own quotation, when they observe that Sir J. P. Grant considered that Government aid should be given in providing the village Teacher with an aggregate income of Rupees 6 a month. Sir J. P. Grant says expressly, that "the village Teacher's earnings from the fees of his scholars is, on an average, Rupees 5 per month," and that from Rupees 2-8 to Rupees 3 per mensem should be given them per month in order to induce them to adopt an improved mode of instruction; so that under the plan devised by Sir J. P. Grant, the aggregate income of the village Teacher would have been from Rupees 7½ to Rupees 8 per mensem, and not Rupees 6. Under the modified scheme the village Teacher has been so far improved, as to need less supervision than was provided for under Sir J. P. Grant's scheme, and he necessarily demands a higher rate of remuneration, which has been given him, as already shown, by allotting less money to inspectional and more to instructional purposes. Of the Gurus contemplated for improvement by Sir J. P. Grant, he says (paragraph 9)—"It is useless to expect that the ordinary race of village Teachers would submit to the ordeal of examinations. All that can be done is by conference, by judicious advice, and by holding out hopes of reward to stimulate the best men of the class to greater exertion, and to lead them to adopt an improved course of study." It would have been difficult to improve ten men out of a hundred of the old Guru class that might have been taken in hand at the first instance, and the inspectional charges on account of conference, advice, and holding out of rewards, would have been largely wanted, before the best men of the class would have been found, or stimulated to greater exertion; in fact, Sir J. P. Grant admits the difficulty of improving the old class of Gurus immediately after. "This," he says, "it must be conceded, is the one difficulty of the scheme." Now, under the modified scheme, that difficulty has been successfully overcome, and wastage of public money on ineffective inspectional charges altogether prevented. Looked at from this point of view, the modified scheme must appear to be very much more cheap than the plan originally devised. The present average remuneration of the village Teacher, viz., Rupees 10 per month, Rupees 5 from fees and 5 from Government, is hardly considered sufficient or adequate, and I have heretofore succeeded in keeping on the system by carefully appointing men to their native villages, taking advantage thereby of the Bengali's love for his home. Should less pay be given to the village Teachers, not only will the present improved race of them at once begin to deteriorate, but larger outlays than at present required will become needful, as under the original scheme, to provide for closer inspection of the schools. Any measures of economy therefore which will touch the village Teacher's income, will at once tell most injuriously on the efficiency of the schools and hardly answer their end.

With advertence to the remark of the Financial Resolution that the village Teacher's pay under the present system is exceptionally high in Lower Bengal, I beg in the first place to submit that, never having visited schools in the North-West Provinces or other parts of India, I am unable to say any thing on this point from personal experience. I would wish to be deputed to those provinces where cheaper systems are supposed to be at work, and I would then be in a position to compare them to the Bengal system, both as to their respective costs and results. As it is, however, I beg to submit,

for your consideration and of Government, the following extracts from the Administration Reports of different Local Governments:—

(1.) "The average cost, including extraordinary charges, of each boy (at a village school) was Rupees 2-8 per annum in the Central Provinces;" Administration Report for 1864-65, page 25, paragraph 109. Now the average cost per pupil in the village schools under the Bengal system is only 1-8 per year.

(2.) "The number of Government village schools in the Punjab in 1864-65 was 1,745, and the aggregate expenditure Rupees 1,72,130," giving an average expenditure of nearly 100 Rupees per school: Administration Report, Punjab, 1864-65, page 15. Now the expenditure on each village school in Bengal is 63 Rupees per annum.

(3.) With regard to the North-West Provinces, Mr. Kempton, the Director of Public Instruction there, has already written to you to say "that the Halkabundi Teachers receive on an average between 6 and 7 Rupees; fees go to pay Assistants if needed, and as a rule do not belong to the Teacher. Teachers of course receive presents from the fathers of their scholars, but of those we take no account." It would seem from the above that the Government outlay on each Halkabundi School in the North-West is at the rate of about Rupees 80 per annum. As the fees do not belong to the Teachers I imagine that they do not amount to anything very considerable. It also appears to me, that were the system of levying fees at the village schools to be taken in hand by Educational Officers it would not only give occasion to much vexatious interference, but the fees will at once dwindle to something very insignificant. I think most of my village Teachers would gladly commute their proprietary rights over the fees of their scholars for an addition of 3 Rupees to their present stipends, with permission to receive presents from the fathers of their pupils.

The above will, I hope, go some way to shew that the expenditure on the Bengal system, so far from being exceptionally high, is lower than in the Punjab, the Central, and the North-Western Provinces. Not having the Madras or the Bombay Education Reports by me, I am unable to make any references to them, and in the Administration Reports of those Governments, I have been unable to find any thing material on the subject of indigenous or village schools.

With regard to the Despatch No. 17 of the Secretary of State on the subject of the scheme, I beg most respectfully to submit, that it seems not only to approve the general object of the scheme, but likewise to express approbation of the modified form which has been given to the plan originally devised by Sir J. P. Grant. For the modified scheme is not only approved generally but fully described in the following lines of the Despatch:—"The measure which promises to be most effectual is that which has been in operation for the last three years, under which Masters are trained for indigenous schools at Normal establishments expressly provided for them, and a small stipend is added by Government to the salaries of all those Masters who successfully pass their examination when they are placed in charge of their schools." There is no specification in the above as to the exact amount of the stipend which the Government will pay to the village Teachers, but as I have, under the preceding paragraph, shewn that the amount now paid in Bengal is actually smaller than the payments made to corresponding classes of schools in other provinces of India, "the Bengal plan," in the words of the Despatch, "does undoubtedly possess the great advantage of accomplishing its object at small expense."

From E. C. BAYLEY, Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to the Government of Bengal, Simla, the 28th October 1865

I am directed to acknowledge your letter of the 2nd of [unclear] and of its enclosures, on [unclear] lar education in Bengal

2. It appears to be satisfactorily shown that the view taken in the Resolution of the 26th January last, No. 294, of Sir J. P. Grant's scheme of vernacular education was based on a misconception, and also that the present system is not an expensive modification of that scheme. The Governor General in Council is glad to accept His Honor's assurance that the question of the feasibility of reduction in the existing rate of Government expenditure will receive his careful consideration. So far as it has gone, His Excellency in Council believes that the system has worked successfully, and he is so fully impressed with the importance of giving it a fair trial, that no interference with any part of it is at present contemplated. As observed in my letter of the 12th ultimo, the scheme must be considered simply an adaptation of the grant-in-aid system to the circumstances and requirements of elementary Vernacular Schools in Bengal, and so far as it can be efficiently extended on this principle, the Governor General in Council is anxious to give it every encouragement and support.

3. Adverting now to the question raised in your 4th paragraph as to the means of providing funds for extending Vernacular education, I am directed to observe as follows:

4. In respect to the cesses for educational purposes raised in the North-Western Provinces, the Central Provinces, Oudh, and Bombay, His Excellency in Council is unable to coincide in the view of the Lieutenant-Governor that they form a part of the Imperial revenue assigned for local educational purposes.

5. As a matter of fact, the State has never undertaken to provide funds for the education of the mass of the people.

6. Consequently, as was originally the case in Bengal, so in the North-Western Provinces, the proportion of the rent taken as revenue by Government has been fixed on calculations into which the element of a provision for the general education of the people did not enter.

7. In the recent settlements in Upper India, the limit of the Imperial demand has been fixed at 50 per cent. of the gross assets, and this would have been its limit, even no further provision by a distinct cess had been expedient for educational purposes.

8. The educational cess, on the other hand, varies in amount according to local requirements, and is, accordingly, clearly taken from the proprietors of the soil as a separate tax for special local purposes. It is no doubt a true tax, for it is not voluntary, although in the Upper Provinces of Bengal, from the circumstances under which it has been levied, the objects to which, and the manner in which, it is applied, it is probably not popular.

But it is altogether separate from the Imperial revenue, and if it became impossible for any special reasons to apply its proceeds to the purposes for which it is designed, it would not be levied at all.

9. The existence of such a cess, therefore, in other Provinces, affords no argument for the appli-

cation of a portion of the Imperial revenues in Bengal to local purposes. On the contrary, there is no part of India in which the Imperial revenue can with less fairness be called upon to contribute to local objects.

11. Whatever may have been in reality the share of the income of the proprietors of the soil which the permanent settlement originally gave to Government, there can be no doubt that it is now far less than in other Provinces; for, while the area under cultivation has enormously increased (perhaps, on an average, doubled), on the other hand the prices of produce have undoubtedly risen in even a still greater ratio, so that the gross assets of the proprietors have probably increased four or five-fold, if not more, and the amount of the Imperial demand remaining stationary, its incidence has proportionably diminished.

12. The main burden, therefore, of Vernacular education in Bengal should, the Governor General in Council thinks, fall, not on the Imperial revenues, but as elsewhere, on the proprietors of the land.

13. In the permanently-settled Districts of the Benares Division of the North-Western Provinces (between which and the permanently-settled Districts of the Lower Provinces the most complete analogy exists), the proprietors of the soil have voluntarily agreed to the imposition of an educational cess, on condition that Government should give an equal amount.

14. The Governor General in Council would be glad if the Zemindars of Bengal could be similarly brought to tax themselves for Vernacular education. In such case, without pledging the Government to any specific condition, His Excellency would willingly give such aid as the finances of the Empire could, from time to time, fairly afford.

15. But if any such voluntary arrangement is impossible, His Excellency in Council is of opinion that legislation may justly be employed for the imposition of a general local cess of such amount as may be necessary.

16. Regard being had to the circumstances of the country, it is probable that a cess at least as heavy as that borne by the Zemindars in the Central Provinces, viz., 2 per cent. on the Imperial revenue, might fairly be imposed; though even this cess would not provide (taking the amount of the land revenue of Bengal to be £3,770,000) a sum equivalent to that estimated by Mr. Atkinson as being necessary for the full extension of Vernacular education in Bengal.

17. Something may, however, be also eventually provided from the source indicated in my letter No. 4433, dated the 12th ultimo. At any rate the Governor General in Council would wish the Lieutenant-Governor to re-consider the entire subject, with reference to the above remarks, and to submit such a modified scheme for extending Vernacular education as may, on further examination, seem to be practicable.

18. In connection with the general subject, I am desired to forward the accompanying copy of a letter from the Reverend J. Long, and to state that the Governor General in Council will be glad of an expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's views on the proposals made therein. The reports by Mr. Adams, referred to by Mr. Long, accompany.

From the REVEREND JAMES LONG, to His Excellency
SIR JOHN LAWRENCE, K. C. B. and K. S. I., Governor
General of India, — (dated Simla, the 24th August 1867.)

MR. GORDON, the Private Secretary, has informed me that your Excellency is pleased with the general principles relating to Vernacular education laid down in my letter of the 14th instant, and wishes to have my views as to a practical scheme for imparting Vernacular education in Bengal.

2. I beg to submit the following sketch of the measures I would recommend as urgent in the existing crisis in Bengal. Additional measures can be adopted after these are in successful operation.

3. It would be well, I believe, to take as a basis the existing system of Vernacular education in Bengal, which has worked well on the whole, and has been tested by experience; now it mainly needs development and expansion, with more decided efforts to work downwards from the upper middle class to the masses.

The following are the chief features in the existing system in Bengal and Behar:—
(a.) A Director-General in correspondence on one side with the Government of Bengal, and on the other with European Inspectors and Native Sub-Inspectors.

(b.) Twenty Normal Schools established in various parts of the country, in which natives receive an education qualifying them to convey superior Vernacular instruction, but almost exclusively in schools of the middle classes. The supply of these is only limited by the want of money to augment the number of Teachers under training, and the opening of additional Vernacular Schools.

(c.) Model Schools supported by Government. These give an example to natives and the Teachers of indigenous schools, of an improved system of education.

(d.) Grant-in-aid Schools, which are spreading through the country, the Government defraying half the expense. These schools are not generally attended much by the agricultural classes.

(e.) Gura Schools. These are the old indigenous schools of the country, and fragments remaining of the ancient village municipal system, the village having the guru or hedge school-master, the same as it has its barter or smith. There are more than 30,000 of these small schools in Bengal and Behar; the Teachers are very ignorant, and can only give instruction in the merest elements of reading, writing, and arithmetic: they present, however, the cheapest and simplest basis for acting on the village population. Successful efforts are now being made both by Government and the Christian Vernacular Education Society to improve this humble class of schools, by forming them into what are called Circle Schools. A circle is generally composed of three schools, situated a few miles distant from each other; the Master or Guru of each school receives a monthly bonus from Government or private persons, varying according to the number and proficiency of his pupils; he also receives fees from them in money or food; his defective instruction is supplemented by a superior Teacher, who devotes two days a week to each school in rotation. I myself have for years worked schools on this plan; they are now attended by 500 boys, and I believe this scheme is the most practical one at the present time for reaching the masses; it supplements without superseding indigenous effort.

(f.) Vernacular Scholarships of the value of Rupees 4 monthly are given after a competitive examination to the best pupils of Vernacular schools, in order to give encouragement to the schools, and enable the successful candidates to pursue higher course of study at superior schools. There are 450 Vernacular scholarships, costing Government Rupees 28,000 annually. A class of scholarship, the value of Rupees 2 per per mensem, is requisite to encourage the boys of the village schools; the scholarship of Rupees 4 monthly being chiefly competed for by those who intend to prosecute their studies at English schools.

4. With the exception of the Gura Schools, the existing system does not tap the masses; it is adopted chiefly by boys of the middle classes; it exhibits but a slow tendency to work downwards, and expand itself towards the millions; it embraces but a fraction of the population, leaving the agricultural and working classes in the main as ignorant as ever, but it has done much good as a preparation for an onward movement.

The system good for a certain class should now be extended. and the time seems now to have arrived when it should be extended to the masses, the 35,000,000 of Bengal, of whom two per cent. cannot read intelligently. I do trust that while in France, Prussia, and even Russia, sedulous efforts are being made for present education, Bengal will not in this respect be backward; and especially as the removal of popular ignorance is one of the chief means of destroying that system of popular superstition, which is so mighty an obstacle to all measures for the religious and social amelioration of the millions of Bengal.

5. The expansions and changes I would propose in the existing system are the following:—

(a.) The Grant-in-aid Rules to be modified, so as to require from Gura Schools only one-third the local contribution instead of one-half as at present. The peasantry do not value knowledge sufficiently to pay half the expenses of a school; repeatedly have they said to me,—we are not merchants or pundits, what is the use of learning History and Geography? If in Prussia education has long been compulsory, if in Sweden a man cannot be married who can neither read nor write, and if in Christian England the question of compulsory education is looming in the distance, why should we in this last of cases where even the educated native too often say—*Odi profanum vulgus et arce*,—expect that the common people will pay for knowledge of what they do not at present see the pecuniary value.

(b.) A Director of Vernacular Education to be appointed, who, being responsible only to the Government of Bengal, should have the sole and uncontrolled management of Vernacular education and should alone correspond direct with the Bengal Government on all Vernacular questions. I proposed this twelve years ago to the Bengal Government, and subsequent experience and observation have only confirmed my views.

My reason then, as now, had no reference to the individual filling the office, but simply in relation to the obvious principle of the division of labor which requires that one Director should have charge of the higher education, the other of that of the masses; the operations of both are so different that no man, however able or industrious, can do justice to both, involving, as each of them does, a variety of new and complicated questions very different in their bearings in a country like Bengal where educational cannot be separated from social problems.

If, therefore, great stress is to be laid on the Vernacular Director, whose undivided attention could be given to Vernacular questions which embrace the following Sub-Divisions:—

(a.) The education of ryots and working classes, a sphere wider in respect of population than that of France and Scotland united.

(b.) Female education now rapidly developing in Bengal, though the Punjab has gone ahead of Bengal in this branch.

(c.) *Mohomedan Education* hitherto so utterly neglected. In my previous letter I have referred to the important social and political consequence connected with it.

(d.) *The Oriental Colleges.* The Sanskrit College of Calcutta has been exceedingly useful in promoting the development of Vernacular Literature, and supplying a well trained class of Pundit for teaching the Vernacular and making translations. As *Philological Institutions*, Oriental Colleges are of primary importance in the present condition of the Indian Vernaculars. The Calcutta and Hooghly Madrasahs have long required Principals at their head acquainted with Arabic and Persian, who could devote their entire time to the duties of those colleges, and exercise an useful influence among the Mahomedans.

(e.) *Agricultural Institution.* This is of primary importance for rural schools, as education in Ireland and Prussia have shewn. In Bengal, the practical measures to be adopted are the teaching it in Normal Schools, with elementary class books in village schools. I myself published a book on this subject, which proved very useful for the pupils of my village schools. A Chair of Agricultural Chemistry in the Calcutta University would be important for Bengal, as would a Minister of Agriculture in connection with the Supreme Government.

(f.) *Vernacular Literature,* in correspondence with Calcutta School Book Society in relation to Vernacular School-books.

Vernacular Schools and District Libraries. The circulation of useful Vernacular books, by Book-hawkers, and the compilation of an Annual Report on Vernacular Literature in relation to its statistics, the quality, number, and circulation of books.

6. The abovementioned six subjects are closely connected with one another, and all bear on the interests of Vernacular education. The Vernacular Director having to work them out by a staff of subordinate Agents, would have ample occupation for his department without distracting his attention by problems relating to the higher education of the upper ten thousand.

7. There is another subject that belongs also to the Vernacular Department referred to in the Educational Dispatch of the Secretary of State for India in 1854, directed

"That even in the lower Government situations a man who can read and write be preferred to one who cannot, if he is equally eligible in other respects."

This injunction has remained practically a dead letter in Bengal, but it deserves the serious attention of the authorities as one of the cheapest and most efficient means of giving a pecuniary motive to the people for learning to read and write. Certainly it might at once be carried out in the Police.

To make this test effective, there should be periodical examinations held in various Districts, conducted by the Vernacular Department, and presided over by the Commissioner of the Zillah, to attach weight to it. Certificates should be bestowed on those who pass the examination, and after a given period no man should be eligible for any office under Government unprovided with this certificate. I believe these examinations conducted publicly would give a considerable impetus to adult education.

8. On the other hand, the Bengal Director of Public Instruction has ample scope for his energies in the Administration and Correspondence Department relating to English education, comprising—

(a.) The Calcutta University increasing every year in importance.

(b.) The Zillah Colleges of Bengal.

(c.) The Zillah Schools.

(d.) Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

(e.) The Grant-in-aid system as applied to numerous Anglo-Vernacular Schools, Missionary and Native.

(f.) He has practically to decide the questions that are referred to him from the Inspectors and the various Departments.

(g.) He corresponds directly with Government.

(h.) He selects suitable persons for the colleges and head schools, which require considerable care and investigation on his part.

The numerous details that arise out of the above subject must have a Director, however earnest and diligent, little leisure to give due consideration to the numerous, difficult, and important questions connected with Vernacular education.

For carrying out the proposed extension of Vernacular education, a grant of two lacs of rupees is required from Imperial Funds as the first instalment. I have stated in my previous letter why the Bengal Peasant has special claims on the Imperial Government, it was that Government which, in ignorance and with good intentions, handed him over in 1793 to the zemindaree system, which has reduced him to a serf, a *proletaire*, and has made the victim of a class of men, who, with a few exceptions, are practically opposed to his social elevation, as well as to his education. After a quarter of a century's residence in Bengal, I have known but rare cases where either Zemindars or educated Natives would do anything to raise the Bengal ryot to the status of a "man and a brother," the Supreme Government therefore, as the *guardian*, (the protector) of the poor and helpless ought not to forego its functions in this case. The Peasant has been starved in body; is he to remain starved in soul also?

10. To meet the further expenses that must be incurred in developing this scheme, besides grants from the Imperial Revenue, there may be available from local sources the following:—

(a.) *An educational cess.* This has succeeded only in Bombay and the North-West Provinces, but Bengal is under the blight of the zemindaree settlement. Zemindars, in common with the majority of educated Natives, are too indifferent to the people to concur in taxing themselves for the benefit of the million; while the people themselves complain so bitterly of the Chowkedaree Tax, and the extortion it leads to, that they dread extremely any new taxation; besides, they see as little advantage in being taxed for schools as the criminal classes would to volunteer paying a direct tax for Policemen and Jails.

(b.) *Raising the fees of the pupils that attend Anglo-Vernacular Schools and Colleges, and diminishing the grants.* So as to gradually diminish the grant for English education would yield a considerable amount available for the people at large, who have not the rich prizes in situations to offices that are open to the Alumni of English schools. The remarkable success of the Calcutta University illustrates the money-value to Natives of an English education which has the prizes, while Vernacular education under the existing system has but blanks. When English education was commenced in 1835 in Bengal, one object held out was, that it was the shortest way for getting at the people, that English Education was to prepare for Vernacular. Thirty years have elapsed since these promises were held out. Mr. Adams was appointed by Lord W. Bentinck as Commissioner to enquire on Vernacular education in Bengal. His reports were shelved, and so was the subject until lately. These reports have been a long time out of print, and contain much valuable information bearing on the present question. In 1861 the Bengal Government accepted my offer to edit a selection from, or digest of, the most useful portions of them; but ill-health soon after forced me to England. On my return I saw there was not sufficient interest taken by the Authorities on the subject of Vernacular education to induce me to enter on the work.

But now that the question of the extension of Vernacular education has been re-opened, I believe a selection from these reports would be of use; and if my services in editing it were required, I would gladly undertake it for the Government of India. The subjects discussed, and information given, might be suggestive of Vernacular education in other Presidencies, and might be printed in the Selections of the Government of India.

From H. L. HARRISON, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces,—(No. 5068, dated the 10th December 1897.)

I AM directed to annex an extract* from a letter

* Paragraph 13 of letter No. 5870, dated 28th October 1897.

"In the permanently-settled Districts of the Benares Division of the North-Western Provinces (between which and the permanently-settled districts of the Lower Provinces the most complete analogy exists), the proprietors of the soil have voluntarily agreed to the imposition of an educational cess on condition that Government should give an equal amount."

from the Government of India in the Home Department, on the subject of raising funds for vernacular education in Bengal, and to request that, with the permission of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, you will be so good as to furnish this Government with the more essential portion of the correspondence connected with the transaction referred to—especially whatever will shew how the agreement on the part of the proprietors was brought about, in what manner it has been made permanently binding on them, and how the cess is realized from those (of whom it is presumed there must be some) who dissented from the arrangement.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor will also be glad to be informed whether "the proprietors of the soil" spoken of are for the most part considerable landowners, such as are commonly found in the Lower Provinces, or whether the designation includes any large number of the cultivating occupants of the soil.

From C. ROBERTSON, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 84, dated Allahabad, the 6th January 1898.)

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter from your Office No. 5068, dated the 10th ultimo, in which the Government of Bengal request to be furnished with a copy of the correspondence regarding the imposition of an educational cess in the permanently-settled Districts of the Benares Division, and especially with information on certain points noted.

2. In reply I am desired to state, for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor, that the Government is unable to furnish a copy of the correspondence asked for, partly because a portion of it was lost in the mutinies, but chiefly because it was in a great measure demi-official, and not placed upon record.

3. I am at the same time to give the following explanation on the particular points noted in your letter:—

I.—The consent of the proprietors was obtained at the solicitation, and by the personal influence especially of the Commissioner, Mr. H. C. Tucker, and also of the District and Educational Officers.

II.—An engagement binding themselves and their heirs to pay the cess, was taken from the landholders.

III.—The cess is not realized from those who refused to enter into engagements.

IV.—The expression "proprietors" includes some large landowners, but also many brotherhoods of cultivating proprietors and members of such brotherhoods.

From E. C. BAYLEY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 237, dated Fort William, the 23th April 1898.)

In continuation of my letter No. 5876, dated 28th October last, I am directed to request the attention of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to the urgent necessity which, in the opinion of the Governor General in Council, now exists for providing from local sources the means of extending elementary education in Bengal, and for the construction and maintenance of roads and other works of public utility.

2. While there is no Province in India which can bear comparison with Bengal in respect of the progress made in the higher branches of education by a considerable section of the upper classes of the community, the Governor General in Council has long observed with regret the almost total absence of proper means of provision for the elementary education of the agricultural classes which form the great mass of the population.

The contrast in this respect between Bengal and other Provinces is striking. In Bengal, with a population that probably exceeds forty millions, the total number of pupils in the lower class Government and Aided Schools was, in 1866-67, only 39,104. In the North-Western Provinces, with a population under thirty millions, the number of pupils in Schools of a similar class was 125,392. In Bombay, with a population of sixteen millions, the number was 79,180. In the Punjab, with a population of fifteen millions, it was 62,355. In the Central Provinces, with a population of eight and a half millions, it was 22,600. Nor does there seem to be any probability that these proportions will hereafter become more favorable to Bengal, although the measures that have lately been taken for the encouragement of vernacular education by means of the system of training Masters in the so-called indigenous schools have been more or less successful. The means of affording elementary instruction appear to be increasing with far greater rapidity in other Provinces. It is shewn by Mr. Howell's Note on the state of Education in India in 1866-67, that in Bombay the annual increase in the number of schools and of scholars is most remarkable. In the North-Western Provinces, in the Punjab, and in the Central Provinces, constant progress is being made. In Oude, where educational operations only commenced a few years ago, the Director of Public Instruction expects before very long to see "a school, under a well-trained and fairly paid Teacher, within two and a half miles of every child in the Province."

3. The Governor General in Council feels that it would not be right to evade any longer the responsibility, which properly falls upon the Government, of providing that the means of obtaining at least an elementary education shall be made accessible to the people of Bengal. He feels that this responsibility must be accepted in this, as in other Provinces, not only as one of the highest duties which we owe to the country, but because among all the sources of difficulty in our administration, and of possible danger to the stability of our Government, there are few so serious as the ignorance of the people.

4. In Bengal, at least, the Government cannot be charged with having done too little for the encouragement of the higher branches of education. The expenditure, in 1866-67, on Government and Aided Schools, mostly of a superior class, was nearly £250,000, of which more than £150,000 was contributed by the State. The Government is entitled to say, quoting the words of the Home Government in the well-known Despatch of 1854, that it has done "as much as a Government can do to place the benefits of education plainly and practically before the higher classes" of Bengal. It may, indeed, be a question whether the Government has not done too much. For, as the Secretary of State wrote in 1864, the true principle by which the expenditure of the Government upon education ought to be governed is this—"That, as far as possible, the resources of the State should be so applied as to assist those who cannot be expected to help themselves, and that the richer classes of the people should gradually be induced to provide for their own education."

However this may be, whether we have done, in this respect, more than was necessary or not, the duty that remains to be performed is clear. It was described as follows in the Despatch of 1854 which has been quoted above:—"Our attention should now be directed to a consideration, if possible, still more important, and one which has been hitherto, we are bound to admit, too much neglected, namely, how useful and practical knowledge, suited to every station in life, may be best conveyed to the great mass of the people who are utterly incapable of obtaining any education worthy of the name by their own unaided efforts."

5. While the Governor General in Council is not content to bear any longer the reproach that almost nothing has been done for the education of the people of Bengal, it is altogether out of the question that the Government can provide the funds without which the removal of that reproach is impossible. The Government of India has given ample proof of its desire to do everything in its power for the encouragement of education. Fourteen years ago, as Mr. Howell has said in his valuable Note, there were "no Universities in India, and no Educational Departments; there were only fourteen Government Colleges for general education; elementary Vernacular education had only been attempted with any degree of success in the North-West Provinces and Bombay; there were no Grant-in-aid Rules; * * * there were no Normal Schools; female education had not been attempted by the State at all, and the total annual grant for education in all India was £98,721." At that time there were not 40,000 Pupils in all the Government Colleges and Schools

in India. At the present time, the total number of pupils in Government and in Aided Schools is probably 680,000, and the estimate of the expenditure upon Education, Science, and Art amounts, for the current year, to £904,000.

6. It is evident that if the Imperial expenditure on education be allowed to go on increasing much longer at the present rate, the result must be a serious aggravation of the financial difficulties of the Government. (The legitimate and unavoidable demands for the encouragement of education will be, at all times, very heavy; and it will be hard enough to meet them without incurring expenditure which need not fall upon the State. "As a matter of fact," as it was stated in my letter of the 28th October last, "the State has never undertaken to provide funds for the education of the mass of the people" in any part of India, nor is it prepared to undertake to do so in Bengal. It is only by acting on a totally different principle that so much has been accomplished in other Provinces. The Governor General in Council thinks that it is now desirable to declare distinctly that this is a subject which, in future, the Government will not consent even to discuss. While the Governor General in Council will always be ready to view, in the most liberal spirit, all questions that may arise, and to afford every help that the Government can reasonably be expected to give, he will decline, in future, to listen to any proposition, the effect of which would be to throw upon the State the main burden of the cost of educating the people of Bengal. The only way in which that cost can be met is, unless some voluntary arrangement be possible, by means of local taxation, specially imposed for the purpose.

7. The Home Government, in the Despatch of 1859, pointed to "the levy of a compulsory rate as the only really effective step to be taken." "The appropriation," it was stated, of a fixed "proportion of the annual value of the land to the purpose of providing such means of education for the population immediately connected with the land seems, *per se*, unobjectionable; and the application of a percentage for the construction and maintenance of roads appears to offer a suitable precedent for such an impost."

The Despatch then referred, in terms which are not altogether applicable at the present time, to the manner in which this principle had been already acted on in the North-Western Provinces, and went on to say, with special reference to Bengal, that "it seems not improbable that the levy of such a rate under the direct authority of the Government would be acquiesced in with far more readiness and with less dislike than a nominally voluntary rate proposed by the local Officers."

8. This principle has been already carried out in Bombay, in the North-Western Provinces, in Oude, in the Central Provinces, and in the Punjab. Although the educational cess in those Provinces is imposed as a percentage on the Government demand, it is, as was stated in my letter of the

28th October last, "clearly taken from the proprietors of the soil as a separate tax for special local purposes." Not only can there be no reason why a similar tax should not be imposed for similar purposes in Bengal, but in the opinion of the Governor General in Council there is no part of India in which the proprietors of the land can be so justly expected to bear local burdens of this nature.

9. The Governor General in Council is aware that it has been sometimes asserted that the imposition of such a tax would be an infringement of the conditions under which the permanent settlement of the land was made. He does not think, and he believes that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will concur in this opinion, that there is any necessity for argument to shew the futility of such assertions. Similar objections were made to the imposition of the Income Tax, and they are as groundless in the one case as in the other. It must, however, be admitted that if an educational cess were levied in Bengal as a percentage on the Government demand, it would, in the eyes of those who were not well acquainted with the true state of the case, have very much the appearance of an enhancement of the assessment imposed upon the land at the time of the permanent settlement. It is desirable, if possible, that the tax should be levied in such a manner as to give no occasion for any misconception of this kind.

10. The Governor General in Council believes also that there are other and more important reasons which would probably render it inadvisable to assess the tax as a percentage on the Government demand. It is well known that in Bengal the amount of the Government revenue has ceased to be any index whatever to the actual annual value of estates. This being the case, the amount of the revenue cannot form an equitable basis for new taxation. This difference between Bengal and provinces where a permanent settlement of the revenue has not been made was fully recognized in the Income Tax Act, and it appears equally right to recognize it in the present instance.

11. Almost the same reasons which have led the Governor General in Council to consider it necessary to provide for elementary education in Bengal by means of taxation specially imposed for the purpose have satisfied His Excellency that similar measures are necessary to provide for the construction of roads and other public works of local utility, the cost of which in other provinces falls not upon Imperial, but on Local Funds. In the North-Western Provinces, in the Punjab, and in Oude, the proprietors of land pay on this account a tax amounting to one per cent. on the Government demand. They pay the same in the permanently-settled districts of the Benares Division. In the Central Provinces they pay two per cent. In Madras the rate may be as much as 3½ per cent. In Bombay, assuming that one-half of the cess lately imposed is devoted to roads, the proprietors of land pay at the rate of 3½ per cent. In Bengal they pay nothing, although there is no part of India in which the means of the landholders are so large; in which the construction of roads and other works of local

improvement is more urgently required, or in which such works have hitherto made so little progress.

12. It was pointed out in my letter of the 28th October last, that in the permanently-settled districts of the Benares Division of the North-Western Provinces, between which and the permanently-settled districts of the Lower Provinces the most complete analogy exists, the proprietors of the soil had voluntarily agreed to the imposition of an educational cess on condition that the Government should give an equal amount; it was added that the Governor General in Council would be glad if the Zemindars of Bengal could be similarly brought to tax themselves for Vernacular education, and that in such case, without pledging the Government to any specific condition, His Excellency would willingly give such aid as the finances of the Empire could, from time to time, fairly afford. Those remarks are equally applicable to the question of local taxation for the construction and maintenance of roads.

13. If, however, in either on both of these cases, it should be found impracticable to provide, by any such voluntary arrangement, the means of meeting the necessary expenditure, the Governor General in Council is decidedly of opinion that recourse should be had to legislation, and that a special tax should be imposed for these purposes upon the landholders of Bengal. Possibly, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor may not agree with all the reasons which have led the Governor General in Council to this conclusion, but His Excellency hopes that the conclusion itself will be accepted by His Honor as proper and necessary, and that His Honor will take measures for speedily carrying it into effect.

14. With regard to the details of the measures that will be required, it is not necessary that much should now be said by the Governor General in Council. Such details can be far better considered by the Local Government by which the money will be raised, and by which it will be expended. There is only one remark on this part of the subject which the Governor General in Council thinks it necessary now to make. The reasons have been stated which appear to render it undesirable that the proposed tax should be imposed as a percentage on the Government Land Revenue. Taking into consideration the great urgency of the objects in view, and the wealth of the classes on whom the tax will fall, the Governor General in Council is of opinion that the amount levied ought not to be less than two per cent. on the net assets, or gross rental, of the land. This is the rate at which cesses are imposed, for the same purposes, in the Central Provinces; and, as was stated in my letter of the 28th October last, it appears to the Governor General in Council that at least so heavy a tax may fairly be imposed in Bengal.

15. The Governor General in Council now leaves this subject in the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor, and he feels complete confidence that His Honor will carry out the measures which have been indicated in the manner which the great importance demands.

Charge by the Assam Tea Company of the employment by the Public Works Department of their Run-away Imported Coolies.

RESOLUTION.

EMIGRATION.

Dated Port William, the 13th January 1868.

READ a letter dated 9th ultimo, and its enclosures, from Mr. Herbert G. Bainbridge, Chief Superintendent of the Assam Company's Tea Gardens, complaining of the conduct of the Officers of the Public Works Department in Assam in employing the run-away imported coolies of the Company.

Letter dated 30th August 1864, from Secretary, Assam Company, Emigration Proceedings for January 1865, Nos. 1621.

Endorsement No. 1193, dated 9th March 1866, from Public Works Department of Bengal Government.

Read also the papers noted on the margin, relative to a similar charge brought in August 1864 by the Company.

ORDER.—Ordered that Mr. Bainbridge's letter, and its enclosure, be transferred to the Public Works Department of this Government, with the remark that the Lieutenant-Governor is surprised to find such a charge still brought against the Local Officers of the Public Works Department, and that His Honor requests that stringent orders may be issued that imported laborers shall not be entertained by that Department in that Province, unless they either hold certificates of discharge, or can otherwise shew, to the satisfaction of the authorities engaging them, that they have not deserted from their employers; Executive Officers should be held responsible for a careful observance of this order by their subordinates. The Lieutenant-Governor desires that a report should be called for on the present complaint from the Executive Officer concerned.

No. 220.

COPY forwarded to the Public Works Department of this Government for information and guidance.

By Order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

(Sd.) H. L. HARRISON,
Junior Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

From HERBERT G. BAINBRIDGE, Esq., Chief Superintendent, Assam Company, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, (dated Nazmah, December 24th, 1867.)

I HAVE the honor to request that you will lay the enclosed copy of a letter from myself to the Assistant Engineer of Sebsaugor before His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. The practice of the Department Public Works, now only too common, of harbouring and employing Bengali coolies in this district, who have deserted from their legitimate employers, is most unfair and improper, coupled as it is with unusually high offer of wages which put, so to say, a premium upon desertion, I have for sometime labored in this respect, but am only now able to bring the matter home. I have not brought the matter into court, because I should be the cause by so doing, of bringing punishment upon some native subordinate only, who is not the real offender, and I feel sure that the matter has only before the Lieutenant-Governor to be against any continuance of this in the future.

From HERBERT G. BAINBRIDGE, Esq., Chief Superintendent, Assam Company, to C. H. RINGWOOD, Esq., Assistant Engineer, Sebsaugor, (No. 61, dated Nazmah, the 9th December 1867.)

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your No. 391 of 5th instant, and to thank you for the information given therein. I will let you know to what factory the three coolies belong in a few days. While thanking you for your offers to assist me in recovering coolies, I would beg to draw your attention to the present practice in the Public Works Department of employing Bengali coolies who do not produce certificates of discharge. These coolies we import at great cost to ourselves, and if any Department or individual gives employment to run-aways, offering them unusually high wages, it is encouraging them to desert their legitimate employers. Probably you are ignorant of this practice to the extent to which it prevails, but the contractors and Mohurirs, &c., working in connection with your department, make a regular practice of enticing away my coolies.

On the 6th instant, I recovered under warrants eleven coolies belonging to Hatty Pooty Factory from Golaghat, who were working at the time of arrest on the roads under your charge. I have been in search of these men for a long time, and they are the same regarding whom Mr. Phillips wrote to you. They were seen at work on the Sebsaugor roads before he wrote, and search was made for them as you know, and we then found they had been transferred to Golaghat, where we have found them; but for the assistance of a resident in Golaghat I could not have recovered these people. They all profess to have been received into employ upon Rupees 7 wages, and therefore they consider it a hardship to be brought back, and will no doubt run away again and do their best to take others with them.

I am quite aware that circumstances connected with Government work as carried on in Assam render it necessary to offer higher wages than the current rates in the province for their work; but it is a most unfair practice in my opinion, and Government should do as we are compelled to do, viz., import the labor they cannot get in the province at the usual rates. It is, however, a cruel injustice to planters that any Government Department should not only afford shelter to run-away coolies imported at great expense by other people, but should hold out the temptation of such wages as Rupees 7 to coolies to desert. If it be necessary for the Public Works Department to pay Rupees 7 wages, their Sircars should be ordered to refuse all Bengalee laborers who cannot produce a certificate of discharge. It is true that it is a punishable offence to employ them, but you are well aware that it is almost impossible for the legitimate employer to find out where the deserters are, and it is an unpleasant alternative to take the matter into Court and difficult to punish the real offender. I should be obliged if you would find out who gave employment to these coolies who are all under agreement, and would punish him yourself, as I have no wish to take the matter into Court, involving, as it may, the full penalty of Rupees 500 in each case. I may mention that numbers of Bengali coolies now come here for employment, but I never allow a single one to be employed who cannot produce a certificate of discharge; and if all employers of laborers would do the same, desertion must soon cease.

No. 283.

Copy forwarded for the information and guidance of the Officiating Superintending Engineer, Assam Circle.

2. Strict orders should be issued to the Executive Engineers in Assam in respect to the employment of run-away coolies, and the Executive Engineer, Upper Assam Division, should be ordered to make a searching enquiry in respect to the charge of Mr. Bainbridge, and to report who are the parties blameable in the matter.

Ry Order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

(Sd.) H. LEONARD, C. E.,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

P. W. Department.

FOOT WILLIAM,
The 24th January 1868. }

From COLONEL S. H. J. DAVIES, Superintending Engineer, Assam Circle, to the Officiating Chief Engineer of Bengal.—(No. 24, dated Gowhatty, the 7th April 1868.)

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of

No. 355 of 24th January 1868, from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, with enclosures.

No. 2141 of 1st April 1868, from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, with enclosures.

correspondence marginally noted, together with a reminder this day received, and to forward the Report thereincalled for. The Executive

Engineer, it will be seen, has used his best endeavours in preventing his subordinates from giving grounds for the accusation made against the department, which in my opinion were not warranted.

2. The delay in furnishing the report shewn to have arisen mainly through the inattention of Mr. Assistant Engineer Ringwood.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL F. J. DAVIES, Executive Engineer, Upper Assam Division, to the Superintending Engineer, Assam Circle.—(No. 1100, dated Debrooghur, the 26th March 1868.)

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum No. 2258, dated 8th February 1868, with enclosures as per margin, having reference to a charge

Bengal Public Works letter No. 283 of 24th January 1868, with enclosures.

brought against the Department Public Works, by Mr. H. Bainbridge, of harbouring and employing Bengali coolies who have deserted from tea plantations.

2. On receipt of your memorandum under reply, I instructed the subordinates in charge of the Seesagur and Golaghat Sub-Divisions in my memorandum Nos. 953 and 957, dated 11th and 15th February, respectively, to send in a return of all Bengali coolies engaged during 1867-68, in accordance with a form furnished.

3. The subordinates in charge of these Sub-Divisions have been frequently instructed both by

No. 146, dated 16th June 1868.

" 421, " 20th Sept. "

" 443, " 23rd Sept. "

" 716, " 16th Nov. 1867.

letter and verbally, as shewn in letters as per margin attached, not to en-

gage Bengali coolies unless they are furnished with discharge certificates from their former employers.

4. The reply of Assistant Engineer, Mr. C. H. Ringwood, in charge of Seesagur Sub-Division, attached in original, received only three days ago,

is not so satisfactory as I could wish; he appears to have entertained several men who had no discharge certificates, and without satisfying himself at once by communicating with their former employers that they had served their time and received their discharge. At the same time I have received no complaints from any planters of any of their coolies having been harboured in this Sub-Division; the complaint referred in the Resolution by Bengal Government, dated 13th January last, of the Secretary, Assam Company, in letter dated 20th August 1864, was not only not established when referred to the Deputy Commissioner, Seesagur, and myself, for enquiry, but the Superintendent, Mr. Smith, stated that the Overseer in charge of the Sub-Division, so far from harbouring coolies, had given him every facility for recovering run-aways.

5. The return from the Golaghat Sub-Division also sent in original is more satisfactory. One or two complaints have however reached me regarding this Sub-Division, but on enquiry run-aways appear to have been harboured by the coolie sirdars on the road without the knowledge of the Overseer. Whenever any men in the department have been convicted of harbouring run-aways, they have been invariably punished by fine or dismissal, and every effort has been made to put a stop to the practice. The Overseer's letter in original, on the subject of the eleven coolies referred to in Mr. H. Bainbridge's letter to Mr. Ringwood, is attached; the remarks at the end of his letter shew how difficult it is to prevent coolies, and especially women being secreted in the coolies lines on the road, and we get the credit of doing it systematically, though the real facts are that Government suffers more in this respect than the Planters. Our coolies work in stations and on public roads, and were we to harbour planters' coolies they could not long escape detection, but the locale of the generality of planters' gardens is a sealed book to us, so that if our coolies desert (and they do sometimes, notwithstanding the alleged superior pay,) we seldom recover them.

6. The high rate of wages given to some of the imported coolies in the department has arisen thus. The first batch of coolies imported in this division in 1862, were entitled to receive pay at the usual rate of 5-4 and 3 for men, women and children; and rice at the rate of one per maund; this was found to complicate the accounts, and having to keep up and serve out rice led to a good deal of roguery; so my predecessor commuted the rice at a fixed rate to the higher rates of 7-6 and 4; the coolies to furnish themselves with rice. When the agreement of these coolies expired, and for some time afterwards the price of rice was so high that the same rate of pay was given to those re-engaged, the last batch imported in 1866-67 only receive 6-5 and 4 respectively and rice at the bazar rate.

The original correspondence is herewith returned.

From C. H. RINGWOOD, Esq., Assistant Engineer, Seesagur, to the Executive Engineer, Upper Assam Division, Debrooghur.—(No. 510, dated Seesagur, the 19th March 1868.)

I HAVE the honor to forward herewith the Descriptive Roll of the Bengali coolies that have been employed in the Seesagur Sub-Division since the commencement of the year reference to remarks contained in Mr. [redacted] letter, beg to state that, so far from

run-away coolies in the lines in my Sub-Division. I have always given planters every facility for recovering such and even make it my business to go to the trouble of apprising them of the fact whenever it comes to my notice that there are run-away coolies working in the Government lines.

It seems to me that planters have only themselves to blame if they are unable to recover run-away coolies from Government; nothing can be simpler than to send a trustworthy man that knows the coolie by appearance with a letter to the officer in whose district it is supposed they are concealing themselves.

This course is, however, seldom adopted.

Descriptive Roll of Bengal Coolies entertained in the Seesaugor Sub-Division, P. W. D., during the year 1867-68.

No.	Names of Coolies.	Date of entertainment.	Where previously employed.	Nature of evidence obtained by Assistant Engineer, showing Cooly had been duly discharged.	REMARKS.
	Shotora man	January 1867 ...	Langalyin ...	States he is time-expired.	Agreement refused, without evidence of fact.
	Atoree "	Ditto ...	Nazrah ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Bondhoo "	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Bhobanee women	7th May 1867...	Debrooghur, D.P.W.		
	Beharee man	30th August 1867			
	Ramchuren "	Ditto ...	Not known ...		Agreement given by Mr. Vernon, never claimed.
	Gacool "	Ditto ...			
	Mongur "	Ditto ...			
	Khaden "	Ditto ...			
	Routoo "	6th Feb. 1867 ...	Not known ...		Worked about six months before an agreement was given them; working still. They state they are time-expired men, never have been claimed.
	Bhoeloo women	Ditto ...			
	Soogia "	Ditto ...			
	Toramaroo "	Ditto ...			
	Atoree "	15th July 1867...	Nazrah ...	Time-expired men came with their Chupprasee from Nazrah.	Refused agreement, waiting to see if any claim against them by the Nazrah Company, gave warning to Superintendent of Nazrah Company about 3 months ago.
	Someroo man	November 1867			
	Kanson "	Ditto ...			
	Ononto "	Ditto ...			
	Ohoila woman	Ditto ...	Imported from Bengal, and some from Debrooghur.		
	Ramhit man	December 1867..			
	Sabratoo "	January 1868 ...			
	Hoomul "	Ditto ...			
	Number of agreement Coolies in Seesaugor Sub-Division is 296				

(Sd.) C. A. Ringwood.

From Overseer E. R. McCARTHY, D. P. W., in charge of Gholaghat Sub-Division, to MAJOR F. J. DAVIS, Executive Engineer, Upper Assam Division.—(No. 10, dated Gholaghat, the 6th March 1868.)

In reply to your memorandum 957, covering Superintending Engineer's 2,258 and Secretary to Government, Bengal, No. 220, with a copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Bainbridge to Mr. C. H. Ringwood concerning some coolies who had deserted from his employ, I have the honor to offer the following explanation:—

The 11 coolies alluded to by Mr. Bainbridge as having been transferred from the Seesaugor Sub-Division were never transferred, they came down as I have since learned from Nazrah or some place near it, and were kept for a few days, by the coolie Sirdar and Mohurir at Borsocotta, but were given up at once when applied for, both coolie Sirdar and Mohurir have been dismissed, as they have been repeatedly warned by verbal order and perwanah to entertain no cooly on the road, and if any come for employment, not to harbour them in the lines, but let them go in, if they wish to do so, to the Station, where I can see for myself whether they have got certificates or not.

It is not easy to keep detachments of coolies scattered along 80 or 40 miles of road strictly to rule, as they are necessarily a great part of the time under the supervision of sirdars, &c., while the case is quite different on Tea Estates, where the Assistant in charge can see his men mustered every day, and knows at once what men he has.

As I am on the lowest station in the division, more come this way than any other, as it is on the road home for them, and very often when they come so far they find that they have not sufficient means to go any farther, and try to earn some more pice, or in the plantations lower down, this I have taken the most rigorous steps to put a stop to as far as dismissal would do so, and it is now almost at an end. I say almost, because a large proportion of my coolies are single men, and eagerly embrace the opportunity of harbouring women, and this it is impossible for me to find out, as they take care to secrete them when I go near their location, but they are severely punished when detected.

The questions raised concerning high pay, &c. I leave in your hands.

I annex copies of my perwanahs to Mohurirs and others on this subject.

*Descriptive Roll of Bengallee Coolies entertained in the Golaghat Sub-Division, Department Public Works,
during the year 1867-68.*

Numbers.	Names of Coolies.	Date of entertainment.	Where previously employed.	Nature of evidence obtained by Overseer, showing cooly had been duly discharged.
1	Askuru	.....	Seebaugor	Certificate.
2	Bhokanur Sing	.....	Bengua Khos Factory	Ditto.
3	Tally Sing	.....	Dibroo	Ditto.
4	Luckhee Ram	5th June 1867	Rajgur Factory	Ditto.
5	Korom Sing	10th June "	Ditto	Ditto.
6	Burjoo	5th June "	Ditto	Ditto.
7	2 Gopaul	.....	Pankha Factory	Ditto.
8	Woomerden, Mason	.....	Bengua Khos	Ditto.
9	Molokoo	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
10	Mohabally	.....	Nowgong	Ditto.
11	Koreembux	.....	Nazeerah	Ditto.
12	Sannewallee	.....	Bengua Khos	Ditto.
13	Inamoodoo	10th June 1867	Chokeeting Factory	Ditto.
14	Hossen Mohamed, Mason	.....	Seebaugor	Ditto.
15	Nundolall, Bengallee	.....	Bengua Khos	Ditto.
16	Motlong	.....	Chokeeting Factory	Ditto.
17	Rotina	.....	Gaboinportist	Ditto.
18	Soodun	.....	Chokeeting	Ditto.
19	Jheera	.....	Bengua Khos	Ditto.
20	2 Sunker	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
21	Soonchee	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
22	Khoodeeram	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
23	Protap	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
24	Saleem	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
25	3 Bhoyrub	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
26	Anundes	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
27	Seeboruth	.....	Desai Factory	Ditto.
28	Bhoosai	.....	Bengua Khos	Ditto.
29	Ramritha	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
30	Rughoobur	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
31	Sookun	.....	Gherladharee	Ditto.
32	Bodooram	.....	Kocharee Pookry	Ditto.
33	Theolook	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
34	Womoratdeen	.....	Chokeeting Factory	Ditto.
35	Bamoo	.....	With Mr. Gergory	Discharge.
36	Monoo	.....	Haleesoongee Factory	Certificate.
37	Prossaid	.....	Bengua Khos	Ditto.
38	Deel Mohamed	.....	Chokeeting Factory	Ditto.
39	Gherchoo	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
40	Komul	.....	Bengua Khos	Ditto.
41	Ramkieson	.....	Chokeeting Factory	Ditto.
42	Ramfull	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
43	Sam Sing	10th June 1867	Rajgur Factory	Ditto.
44	Burcha	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
45	Morolee	5th June 1867	Ditto	Ditto.
46	Gorai	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
47	Madhoo	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
48	Ram	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
49	Sokun	.....	Duffla Ting	Ditto.
50	Gopee	10th June 1867	Rajgur Factory	Ditto.
51	Modon	5th June "	Ditto	Ditto.
52	Bojoonath	10th June "	Ditto	Ditto.
53	Sonai	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
54	Polat	.....	Dibroo	Ditto.
55	Dergohee	.....	Chokeeting Factory	Ditto.
56	Jasskot	.....	Desai Factory	Ditto.
57	Mehur	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
58	Bondhoo	5th June 1867	Rajgur Factory	Ditto.
59	Bhooloe	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
60	Sectobul	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
61	Karoo	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
62	Sam Sing	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
63	Madising	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
64	Koylla	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
65	Mothoors	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
66	Pockkoisush	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
67	Tasee	.....	Chinnamora Factory	Ditto.
68	Jaboo	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
69	Thegoo	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
70	Horeehur	.....	Chokeeting Factory	Ditto.
71	Thejoo Sing	5th June 1867	Rajgur Factory	Ditto.
72	Seehora	10th June "	Ditto	Ditto.
73	Tura Sing	.....	Ditto	Ditto.
74	Sohorai Sing	5th June 1867	Ditto	Ditto.

Number.	Names of Coolies.	Date of entertainment.	Where previously employed.	Nature of evidence obtained by Overseer, showing Cooly had been duly discharged.	Remarks.
76	Koenda Sing, Bengallee	5th June 1867	Rajgur Factory	Certificate.	
77	Sandmadia Sing	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.	
78	Seebaluck	5th June 1867	Gheelndhree Factory	Ditto.	
79	Molai		Rajgur Factory	Ditto.	
80	Jhorricot		Chokeeting Factory	Ditto.	
81	Monghooa		Seebaugor	Discharge.	
82	Obhinias Sing		Bengua Khoa	Certificate.	
83	Somaroo		Seebaugor	Discharge.	
84	2 Bobosa		Ditto	Ditto.	
85	Sintoo	10th June 1867	Ditto	Ditto.	
86	Omrut	5th June "	Rajgur Factory	Certificate.	
87	Dejeonath		Ditto	Ditto.	
88	Mohun		Pankah	Ditto.	
89	Bheema		Ditto	Ditto.	
90	Tollex	5th June 1867	Bengua Khoa Factory	Ditto.	
91	Maghon		Ditto ditto	Ditto.	
92	Koroma		Ditto ditto	Ditto.	
93	Bishonath		Ditto ditto	Ditto.	
94	Borut		Ditto ditto	Ditto.	
95	Soboron		Ditto ditto	Ditto.	
96	Koonul		Seebaugor	Discharge.	
97	Bhodhur		Ditto	Ditto.	
98	Monchorum		Ditto	Ditto.	
99	Kobeah	10th Jan. 1867	Bengua Khoa	Certificate.	
100	Goboodhun		Rajgur Factory	Ditto.	
101	Jertona		Calcutta	Discharge.	
102	Meghuo		Bengua Khoa Factory	Certificate.	
103	Podmoif	5th June 1867	Ditto ditto	Ditto.	
104	Jhorrena		Rajgur Factory	Ditto.	
105	Sookarna		Chokeeting Factory	Ditto.	
106	Duponee		Ditto ditto	Ditto.	
107	Goorhee	10th June 1867	Ditto ditto	Ditto.	
108	1 Jholeea		Rajgur Factory	Ditto.	
109	Toolee		Chokeeting Factory	Ditto.	
110	Rojkallea	5th June 1867	Bengua Khoa Factory	Ditto.	
111	Anuruthoe		Rajgur Factory	Ditto.	
112	Rajmattee	5th June 1867	Nazeorah	Discharge.	
113	Goorbooree		Rajgur Factory	Certificate.	
114	Loleeta		Ditto	Ditto.	
115	Somaree		Ditto	Ditto.	
116	Foorkee	10th June 1867	Ditto	Ditto.	
117	Jooronee	5th June "	Ditto	Ditto.	
118	Sagoree		Ditto	Ditto.	
119	Hesabee		Ditto	Ditto.	
120	Rajmateeah		Ditto	Ditto.	
121	Dhookhotee		Ditto	Ditto.	
122	Lochoree	10th June 1867	Ditto	Ditto.	
123	Potiah	5th June "	Ditto	Ditto.	
124	Dhunmotia		Ditto	Ditto.	
125	Moskima		Ditto	Ditto.	
126	Doorgee		Ditto	Ditto.	
127	Parhutee	10th June 1867	Ditto	Ditto.	
128	Dosomue		Ditto	Ditto.	
129	Talaree		Chinnamora Factory	Ditto.	
130	Fakoree		Ditto ditto	Ditto.	
131	Sadai		Ditto ditto	Ditto.	
132	1 Parhotee		Bengua Khoa Factory	Ditto.	
133	Bureah	10th June 1867	Pankhat	Discharge.	
134	Koonp		Rajgur Factory	Certificate.	
135	Sookermonee		Ditto	Ditto.	
136	Koonae	5th June 1867	Pankha	Discharge.	
137	Acharee		Rajgur Factory	Certificate.	
138	Sumpa		Ditto	Ditto.	
139	Mothoora.		Ditto	Ditto.	
140	Bheekharan		Ditto	Ditto.	
141	Koonind		Ditto	Ditto.	
142	Dhuolia		Ditto	Ditto.	
143	Woomorotee	10th June 1867	Ditto	Ditto.	
144	Kotomh		Rajgur Factory	Ditto.	
145	Boodhooee.	5th June "	Ditto	Ditto.	
146	2 Rajmatee.		Ditto	Ditto.	
147	Holdhur.		Ditto	Ditto.	
148	Perbhoo		Duffa Ting Factory	Discharge.	
149	Pobeein		Merchand	Ditto.	
			Chinnamora Factory	Ditto.	

(8d.) E. McCARTHY, Overseer,
Sub-Divisional Officer, Golaghat.

From COLONEL J. E. T. NICOLLS, R. E., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Public Works Department, to the Superintending Engineer, Assam Circle, (No. 3284, dated the 12th May 1868.)

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 2 of the 7th instant, and of its enclosures, being an explanation by the Officers of this Department of a charge brought against them by Mr. Bainbridge, Superintendent of the Assam Tea Company's Gardens, of harbouring coolies who are runaways from Tea Gardens, I am directed to refer you to the Supplement to the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 13th instant, in which the correspondence has been published for general information.

2. I am at the same time to request that Assistant Engineer, Mr. Ringwood, may be directed to ascertain from each of his coolies who was re-engaged without a certificate of the expiry of his contract the place from which he came, and to communicate with the previous employer of each man, stating name and description, and enquiring whether he has been regularly discharged.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 8th to 14th May 1868.

MONTH.	Date.	Reduced Reading of Barometer at 10 A. M.	THERMOMETER.		Daily Range of the Temperature.	Mean Temperature for the day.	Mean Wet Bulb.	Computed Mean Dew-point.	Mean Degree of humidity for the day.	Prevailing Direction of Wind during the day.	Rain.	Max. Pressure of Wind.	Daily Velocity of Wind.	GENERAL REMARKS.
			Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.										
		Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°			Inches.	°	Miles.	
May ...	8th	29.771	94.2	73.3	20.7	85.0	79.6	75.8	0.75	S S E & S	1.50	40.0	345.7	Chiefly cumuli. Brisk wind from S E 4 A. M. to 6 P. M. storm at 6 1/2 P. M. Thunder and lightning at 7 and 8 P. M. rain at 7, 8, and 11 P. M.
	9th	29.869	87.5	72.5	15.0	76.3	72.0	70.0	.82	Variable	0.98	...	240.6	Cirrocumuli and overcast. Brisk wind at 3, 5 1/2 and 7 1/2 P. M. cleared at 8 A. M. Thunder and rain from 2 to 4 P. M.
	10th	29.832	90.2	71.5	18.7	80.6	76.5	73.8	.80	S by E & S by W	...	...	146.3	Chiefly scattered cumuli. Lightning to N. from 8 to 10 P. M. and high rain at 11 P. M.
	11th	29.769	90.0	71.4	18.6	79.0	75.4	72.9	.82	S S W & S	...	...	209.9	Clouds of different kind and overcast. Brisk wind nearly the whole day. Rain from 6 to 11 P. M. Thunder and lightning from 6 to 11 P. M.
	12th	29.817	88.5	72.0	16.5	80.2	75.5	72.2	.77	S & S S E	1.30	...	297.4	Overcast and scattered cirrocumuli. High wind 2 A. M. Thunder and lightning from midnight to 4 A. M. rain from midnight to 3 1/2 A. M.
	13th	29.842	91.5	78.0	13.5	84.2	80.0	77.1	.80	S S E & S S W	...	2.0	176.5	Scattered cumuli and stratus. Brisk wind from 3 to 6 P. M. lightning at 11 P. M.
	14th	29.843	89.0	75.0	14.0	81.3	76.9	73.8	.79	S S W & Variable	0.02	1.3	212.3	Scattered cumuli and clouds of different kind. Brisk wind at 3 and 4 A. M. lightning to 7 midnight and 4 A. M. Thunder at 4 A. M. from 2 to 4 A. M. at 7 A. M. slight.

The mean Temperature and the mean Wet Bulb are derived from the twenty-four hours Observations made during the day.

The Dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants. The figures in column ten represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity. The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1 foot 2 inches, and that of the Anemometer 70 feet 10 inches, above the level of the ground. The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's Anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of Temperature during the past seven days	...	...	22.8
The Max. Temperature during the past seven days	...	...	94.2
The Max. Temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	...	97.6
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	...	0.78
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	...	0.74
Inches.			
The total fall of rain from 8th to 14th	...	...	3.76
by lower rain gauge	...	...	2.88
by Anemometer gauge	...	...	1.15
Ditto ditto from 8th to 14th, average of fourteen previous years	...	...	9.62
Ditto ditto between the 1st January and the 14th current	...	...	3.85
Ditto ditto during the corresponding period of the past year	...	...	...

* Fell since 5 P. M. of the 11th to 3 A. M. of the 12th.

The 18th May 1868.

GOVERNMENT SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

Meteorological Report up to 7th May 1868.

May.	Hour.	Barometer at 52° corrected to 32°	Thermometer.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	Wind.		Rain.	Weather.
			Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
		Inches.	°	°				Inches.	
1st	10	29.814	80	82	69	S S W	...	...	Scattered cirri.
	18	29.808	80	83	61	S	...	...	Clear.
2nd	10	29.805	80	83	73	S	...	...	Scuds from S.
	18	29.784	82	83	64	S	...	...	Thin cum.
3rd	10	29.690	89	82	73	S by W	...	...	Scattered cumuli.
	18	29.764	84	81	63	S	...	...	Clear.
4th	10	29.783	88	80	60	S by W	...	...	Light.
	18	29.784	95	79	47	S S W	...	...	Scattered cirri.
5th	10	29.850	90	81	66	S	...	...	Thin cum.
	18	29.706	95	80	40	S by W	...	...	Clear.
6th	10	29.783	81	82	60	S W	...	...	Scattered thin cirri.
	18	29.691	88	81	45	S	...	...	Clear.
7th	10	29.607	81	83	00	S S W	...	...	Scattered cirrocumuli.
	18	29.678	83	83	60	S	...	...	Cumuli to S.
1st	9-30	29.705	89	88	60	S	Moderate	...	Scattered clouds.
	18	29.601	89	88	83	S	Moderate	...	Cloudy.
2nd	9-30	29.788	87	82	79	S	Moderate	...	Light.
	18	29.701	89	83	76	S	Moderate	...	Light.
3rd	9-30	29.815	88	88	80	S W	Moderate	...	Light.
	18	29.711	89	82	73	S	Moderate	...	Scattered clouds.
4th	9-30	29.725	87	81	70	S W	Moderate	...	Light.
	18	29.761	89	83	76	S	Moderate	...	Light.
5th	9-30	29.786	87	82	79	S W	Moderate	...	Light.
	18	29.681	89	83	76	S	Moderate	...	Hazy.
6th	9-30	29.703	87	83	79	W	Strong	...	Cloudy.
	18	29.676	89	84	80	S	Strong	...	Light.
7th	9-30	29.607	87	83	63	S W	Strong	...	Scattered clouds.
	18	29.531	89	84	80	S	Strong	...	Cloudy.
1st	9-30	29.743	85	81	83	S	Light	...	Cumuli.
	18	29.651	87	82	70	S by E	Light	...	Cloudless sky. Hazy.
2nd	9-30	29.784	85	80	70	S	Light	...	Cumuli.
	18	29.662	86	81	79	S by W	Light	...	Hazy.
3rd	9-30	29.827	81	80	83	S by E	Light	...	Cumuli.
	18	29.691	85	81	83	S W	Light	...	Misty horizon.
4th	9-30	29.820	84	80	83	S	Light	...	Cloudy horizon.
	18	29.804	80	82	84	S W	Light	...	Misty horizon.
5th	9-30	29.781	83	81	81	S W	Light	...	Cumuli.
	18	29.650	85	80	75	S W	Light	...	Hazy.
6th	9-30	29.704	84	80	83	S by E	Light	...	Cumuli.
	18	29.577	85	70	75	S W by S	Light	...	Misty horizon.
7th	9-30	29.683	85	79	75	S	Moderate	...	Hazy.
	18	29.557	88	81	70	S	Moderate	...	Cumuli drifting northward, strong wind from S. greater part of day.
1st	9-30	29.816	86	81	79	?	?	...	
	18	29.791	88	81	72	N W	Light	...	
2nd	9-30	29.804	87	81	76	S E	Light	...	
	18	29.801	87	81	70	W	Light	...	
3rd	9-30	29.796	86	81	79	W	Light	...	
	18	29.731	88	81	72	W	Moderate	...	
4th	9-30	29.631	87	80	72	W N W	Light	...	
	18	29.711	87	81	76	W	Light	...	
5th	9-30	29.608	88	80	75	E	Light	...	
	18	29.784	87	81	70	S by W	Light	...	
6th	9-30	29.700	86	80	75	S E	Light	...	
	18	29.757	86	80	76	W	Light	...	
7th	9-30	29.604	87	81	76	S E	Light	...	
	18	29.742	88	80	69	W	Light	...	
1st	9-30	29.843	82	83	67	S by W	Light	...	Sultry, misty and calm.
	18	29.752	85	83	55	S by E	Light	...	Cirri to W. S. W. and misty horizon, unsteady wind.
2nd	9-30	29.843	84	83	63	S	Light	...	Scattered cirri, cirrostrati and misty.
	18	29.786	87	83	54	S by W	Light	...	Cirri, strati and misty horizon.
3rd	9-30	29.841	82	80	57	S by W	Light	...	Cirri, haze and calm.
	18	29.902	86	80	47	S W	Moderate	...	Cirri to S. W. and N. W. and misty horizon.
4th	9-30	29.935	82	81	60	S by W	Light	...	Hazy and calm.
	18	29.902	85	80	49	S by E	Moderate	...	Hazy, clear sky, unsteady wind.
5th	9-30	29.893	83	82	60	S by W	Moderate	...	Cirri to N. W. hazy and misty horizon.
	18	29.731	80	83	53	S by E	Light	...	Cirri, cumulostrati, nimbi with threatening appearance to S. S. W.
6th	9-30	29.832	81	82	63	S W	Light	...	Scattered cirri and hazy.
	18	29.844	87	82	60	S	Light	...	Cumulostrati, cirri and misty horizon.
7th	9-30	29.749	88	79	61	S W	Light	...	Cirri and hazy.
	18	29.616	85	81	53	S S W	Light	...	Distant thunder in S. W. at 16 hours thunder and lightning at 16.5. cumuli, cirrocumuli and cirri, unsteady wind.

STATIONS.	Day.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	Wind.		Rain.	WEATHER.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
MADRAS.			Inches.	°	°				Inches.	
	1st	10	29.818	101	76	28	W S W	5	...	Clear.
		10	29.710	93	78	48	S E by E	10	...	Ditto.
	2nd	10	29.824	95	79	40	S W	10	...	Ditto.
		10	29.729	88	82	76	S E	14	...	Ditto.
	3rd	10	29.876	90	81	66	S E	15	...	Light clouds.
		10	29.700	89	81	69	S E	13	...	Clear.
	4th	10	29.804	94	79	56	S E	13	...	Fine.
		10	29.704	89	80	66	S E	17	...	Clear.
	5th	10	29.881	91	80	60	S S W	11	...	Ditto.
		10	29.747	89	80	66	S E	10	...	Ditto.
	6th	10	29.842	93	81	67	S by E	12	...	Ditto.
		10	29.882	90	80	63	S E	15	...	Ditto.
	7th	10	29.700	92	82	63	S E	9	...	Ditto.
		10	29.077	91	80	60	S E	14	...	Fine with light clouds.
DAMPUNG.	1st	9-30	29.276	63	61	88	E by N	Light	...	Rather misty.
		10	29.189	70	61	67	W	Moderate	...	Clouds round horizon rest clear.
	2nd	9-30	29.336	68	68	51	W	Light	...	Clear, delightful morning.
		10	29.279	64	60	72	W	Fresh	0.02	Scattered cumuli.
	3rd	9-30	29.347	66	64	34	S E	Light	...	Clear, delightful morning.
		10	29.390	70	66	61	W	Light	...	Scattered cumuli, rather misty all day.
	4th	9-30	29.376	66	60	68	E	Light	...	Clear, delightful morning.
		10	29.396	70	61	67	S W	Moderate	...	Clouds round horizon rest clear.
	5th	9-30	29.335	62	64	77	E S E	Light	...	Rather misty.
		10	29.236	60	60	66	W	Moderate	...	Clouds round horizon rest clear.
	6th	9-30	29.261	65	60	68	Calm	...	...	Scattered cumuli most agreeable morning.
		10	29.155	65	60	80	W	Moderate	0.05	Cumuli, mist.
	7th	9-30	29.205	63	60	81	E S E	Light	0.57	Clear, agreeable morning, snow on hills to W. and N. W.
		10	29.147	67	64	37	W	Light	...	Clouds round horizon rest clear.
DACCA.	1st	9-30	29.730	85	81	83	S S W	Moderate	...	Cloudy.
		10	29.012	88	85	87	S S E	Moderate	...	Clear.
	2nd	9-30	29.700	85	82	89	S	Light	...	Cloudy.
		10	29.002	84	85	87	S	Light	...	Partially cloudy.
	3rd	9-30	29.810	85	85	91	S S W	Moderate	...	Very cloudy.
		10	29.004	87	81	87	S S E	Fresh	...	Clear.
	4th	9-30	29.850	86	83	91	S S W	Light	...	Cloudy.
		10	29.702	88	81	80	S S W	Light	...	Clear.
	5th	9-30	29.796	86	82	83	S S W	Light	...	Partially cloudy.
		10	29.032	88	84	83	S	Light	...	Clear.
	6th	9-30	29.057	80	83	87	S S W	Fresh	...	Partially cloudy.
		10	29.553	89	83	80	S S E	Light	...	Cloudy.
	7th	9-30	29.120	86	82	87	S S E	Fresh	...	Ditto.
		10	29.493	88	81	83	S S E	Light	...	Sky overcast, thunder N. E. threatening.
BENGAL.	1st	10	29.534	105	73	18	S W	...	...	Strati.
		10	29.438	106	70	14	W	Light	...	Ditto.
	2nd	10	29.619	100	70	21	N E	...	...
		10	29.542	103	70	17	N W	Light	...	
	3rd	10	29.534	104	70	21	W	Light	...	
		10	29.518	103	67	12	W	Moderate	...	Ditto.
	4th	10	29.600	101	69	18	S W	...	...	Ditto, cirrostrati.
		10	29.550	105	70	15	S W	Light	...	Cirrostrati, strati.
	5th	10	29.012	102	68	15	N W	Moderate	...	Ditto.
		10	29.479	106	70	15	N W	Light	...	
	6th	10	29.620	106	70	15	W	Light	...	Cirri.
		10	29.304	107	68	11	W	Moderate	...	Cumulostrati, cirrostrati.
	7th	10	29.425	106	70	14	W	Light	...	Strati.
		10	29.328	107	71	15	N	Light	...	Ditto.
ROCKHURST.	1st	9-30	29.807	93	64	20	W	...	...	Bright day, a dust storm from S. W. at 15, lasting to 12.15.
		10	29.815	93	63	18	S W	...	...
	2nd	9-30	29.082	93	65	21	W	...	...	Bright and sunny light with wind all day till 15.30.
		10	29.933	90	64	21	S W	...	...
	3rd	9-30	29.934	93	65	21	S W	...	...	Bright day, a few patches of cumuli overcast.
		10	29.486	101	63	10	Calm	...	...
	4th	9-30	29.051	94	70	25	Calm	...	...	Nearly perfect calm all day.
		10	29.670	103	69	16	W	...	...
	5th	9-30	29.010	96	63	20	W	...	...	Few patches of cumuli in S. sky, brisk N. W. breeze from 13.30 till 17.00.
		10	29.800	102	65	12	N W	...	...
	6th	9-30	29.832	99	63	91	S W	...	...	Cirri overcast in early morning, clear at 10 hours.
		10	29.707	103	67	13	W	...	...
	7th	9-30	29.711	97	70	24	S W	...	...	Cirri in the horizon nearly all round, gathering over the sky at 13 hour.
		10	29.677	101	67	13	N W	...	...

* Velocity in miles per hour.

STATION.	Day.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. 100.	WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
			Inches.	°	°				Inches.	
MONTHLY.	1st	10	29.596	87	63	22				
		16	29.591	103	70	15				
	2nd	10	29.601	87	60	23				
		16	29.551	105	70	15				
	3rd	10	29.709	97	67	21				
		16	29.558	104	69	15				
	4th	10	29.782	94	74	28				
PAGNA.		16	29.553	101	68	10				
	5th	10	29.634	93	71	30				
		16	29.412	103	70	20				
	6th	10	29.560	93	75	40				
		16	29.347	104	70	20				
	7th	10	29.500	91	74	41				
		16	29.338	100	75	26				
PALE POORE.	1st	9-30	29.586	89	78	38	N W	...		
		3-30	29.422	106	68	12	N W	...		A fine day.
	2nd	9-30	29.602	97	66	18	N W	...		
		3-30	29.649	103	67	12	N W	...		Ditto.
	3rd	9-30	29.579	100	60	13	W N W	...		
		3-30	29.404	102	67	14	W N W	...		Ditto.
	4th	9-30	29.661	95	74	33	W N W	...		
		3-30	29.447	104	65	10	W N W	...		Ditto.
	5th	9-30	29.635	98	65	21	S W	...		
		3-30	29.451	102	66	14	W N W	...		Ditto.
	6th	9-30	29.495	90	74	41	E	...		
		3-30	29.375	106	72	19	W N W	...		Ditto.
	7th	9-30	29.470	90	72	38	N E	...		
		3-30	29.378	103	75	24	E N E	...		Ditto.
BENGAL SECRETARIAT.	April									
	26th	9-30	29.767	82	76	74	S	...	3.08	Light winds and fine.
		16	29.611	65	80	79	E S E	...		Light air and fine.
	27th	9-30	29.722	84	81	87	S W	...	0.01	Moderate breeze.
		16	29.607	86	80	83	S W	...		Ditto weather.
	28th	9-30	29.607	86	83	87	S W	...		Strong breeze and haze.
		16	29.526	87	83	83	S W	...		Strong weather and haze.
	29th	9-30	29.734	87	80	83	S W	...		Very strong weather.
		16	29.502	88	84	83	S W	...		Strong breeze.
	30th	9-30	29.703	88	83	80	S	...		Light winds.
		16	29.569	80	85	81	S	...		Moderate breeze.
	May									
	1st	9-30	29.794	87	83	83	S W	...		Ditto.
		16	29.442	89	80	80	S W	...		Strong breeze.
	2nd	9-30	29.774	87	84	87	S W	...		Moderate breeze.
		16	29.609	86	84	83	S W	...		Ditto weather.

BENGAL SECRETARIAT,
The 16th May 1868.

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to Govt. of Bengal.



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1868.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, May 16th, 1868.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *Presiding.*

T. H. COWIE, Esq., *Advocate-General.*

H. L. DAMPIER, Esq.,

E. T. TREVOR, Esq.,

A. R. THOMPSON, Esq.,

S. S. HOGG, Esq.,

KOOMAR HARENDRA KRISHNA, RAI BAHADOOR.

BABOO RAMANATH TAGORE.

H. KNOWLES, Esq.,

BABOO PEARY CHAND MITTRA.

T. ALCOCK, Esq.,

H. H. SUTHERLAND, Esq.,

KOOMAR SATYANUND GHOSAL.

DISTRICT MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT.

KOOMAR HARENDRA KRISHNA moved that the Bill "to amend the District Municipal Improvement Act" be passed.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill passed.

POSSESSION OF CHURS AND ISLAND.

Mr. THOMPSON moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill "to amend the provisions of Act IX of 1847—(an Act regarding the assessment of lands gained from the sea or from rivers by alluvion or dereliction within the Provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa)", be taken into consideration in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill, and that the clauses be considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee. He said, with the exception of the 3rd Section, in which a slight verbal alteration had been made, the first three clauses of the Bill remained as they were. The 4th Section had been added to give what the majority of the Select Committee considered was the right construction of Clause 3, Section IV, Regulation XI of 1825, which referred to churs or islands thrown up in navigable rivers or in the sea, the channel between which and the mainland

was not fordable at any season of the year. The disposal of such islands by that Regulation was vested in the Government. The 4th Section of the present Bill proposed to enact that the subsequent junction of any such island so taken possession of by Government should not affect the right of Government. The Section provided that—

"Any island which may have been taken possession of by the local Revenue authorities on behalf of the Government at a time when the channel between such island and the shore is not fordable, shall not be deemed to have become an accession to the property of any person by reason of such channel becoming fordable after such island shall have been so taken possession of."

That depended on the fact of Government having taken possession of the land in the condition and character of an island separated by deep unfordable water. Once having done so, the land was, as the law expressed it, "at the disposal of the Government," and the Government was capable of dealing with it by gift or sale, or by making a settlement for the payment of revenue. Such a construction, it appeared, was in accordance with the policy and principles of the existing law as laid down in Regulation XI of 1825, and certain decisions of the High Court supported the same view. The Committee had, however, the misfortune to find that one of their number, who

was the owner of extensive property in a part of the country where islands were frequently being thrown up, differed on that point, and he (Mr. Thompson) thought he correctly described the hon'ble member's views when he said that the hon'ble member was an advocate of the opinion that the Government might rightly exercise the power of at once taking possession of churs and islands thrown up in rivers or in the sea; but whenever, by gradual accretions, such islands were joined to the mainland, they should be surrendered to the nearest riparian proprietor. The majority of the Committee were opposed to that view, and were of opinion that such claims should not be accorded by right to the Zemindar. Though he (Mr. Thompson) was not in a position to speak on behalf of the Government, he might safely say that Government was in no way desirous of retaining khas possession of islands thrown up in the rivers; its policy had rather been to dispose of such property; and in the case of islands, as described in this Bill, the Revenue authorities would always, in practice, recognize the claim of the nearest proprietor to a prior right to the purchase of the same or to a settlement of the lands.

The Council were aware that a good deal of correspondence had arisen on the subject of the Bill in the press, and he had had interviews also with several gentlemen on the subject; there was also a memorial from the British Indian Association which referred to this Bill. In the discussions which appeared in the public papers, objections were raised chiefly to the rules laid down in Act IX of 1847 for the assessment of alluvial accretions to zemindaries. But he (Mr. Thompson) thought that the adoption or rejection of the present measure would in no way concern that question; and certainly the general principle under which Act IX of 1847 proceeded was not one which the Council was now called on to discuss. It was too large and important a question to be entertained on this occasion.

There had been another section introduced by the Committee, giving power to the Collector to lay out ways in any chur or island which might subsequently be connected to the mainland, and declaring that such ways should be considered public. That provision was introduced at the suggestion of an hon'ble member on the occasion when the Bill was read in Council, and was intended to prevent the inconvenience and loss a zemindar might incur from his estate being deprived of its river frontage.

The motion was put and agreed to.

Sections 1, 2, and 3 were passed as they stood.

Section 4 having been read—

BABOO RAMANATH TAGORE said, he was strongly opposed to this Section. It was, he thought, against the principle of Clause 3, Section 4 of Regulation XI of 1825. That clause declared that when a chur might be thrown up in a large navigable river (the bed of which was not the property of an individual) or in the sea, and the channel of the river or sea between such island and the shore might not be fordable, it should, according to established usage, be at the disposal of Government. But if the channel between such island and the shore was fordable at any season of the year, it should be considered an accession to the land or tenure of the person whose estate might be most contiguous to it.

But by the 4th Section of the present Bill, the effect of that provision would be completely destroyed. He did not know the object of Government in bringing forward this Section. Did they wish to become proprietors of land? He believed not. All that the Government wanted was their revenue. Under the existing law, both of 1847 and 1825, ample provision was made as to the power of Government in assessing newly formed lands, whether islands or accretions to the mainland. Why then did we introduce this section and destroy in a manner the good effect of Clause 3, Section 4 of Regulation XI of 1825? He (Baboo Ramanath Tagore) could not see what the object was. If this Section was expunged from the Bill, it would not put Government to any inconvenience. Under the Regulation of 1825 Government could take possession of an island such as that described in that enactment; but the moment the channel between the island and the mainland became fordable, the Government would have to surrender possession to the proprietor of the nearest estate, and the Government would only have the power of making a new assessment. It was all very well for private individuals to fight and secure as much as they could; but, so far as the Government was concerned, the principle to be observed was different. He therefore thought that this Section, by which the Government sought to deprive the zemindar of a right which he had enjoyed since the permanent settlement, should be omitted, and he would move accordingly that Section 4 should be expunged from the Bill.

BABOO PEARY CHAND MITTRA begged to bring to the notice of the Council that in Morley's Digest of Indian Cases, after citing several cases, there was a note well worth the consideration of hon'ble members:

"It may be added that in the common case of alluvion or increment by the recess of a river or a sea, the Indian law and usage correspond with those of England and with the Civil law. What is gained by gradual accession is the property of him to whose estate the recess of the river or sea has annexed it. What is lost by the gradual encroachment of a river or the sea is a loss without compensation to the owner whose estate is thus destroyed."

The section before the Council was contrary to the spirit of that ruling, and it would therefore be desirable to consider whether it could be retained with due regard to private rights.

MR. SUTHERLAND, while agreeing generally with many of the remarks just made, said, if he was not out of order at this stage in referring to it, he regretted that the Bill did not go further towards amending Act IX of 1847. When the Bill was introduced, he was asked to serve on the Select Committee; but as he was unacquainted with the subject, it never having come before him in the course of business, he feared he would not have been of service in assisting the Committee's deliberations, and he therefore declined acting. But since the Bill had been published in the newspapers, he had received several letters from Mofussil friends of large experience in zemindary matters, complaining very strongly of the hardships inflicted by the operation of Act IX of 1847. The amendment did not appear to him to have touched the special hardships of Act IX. The assessment for increment to estates being levied at current rates, and the rebate for diluvion or any portion washed away being allowed only at the rate of the perpetual settlement, struck him as manifestly unequal in its bearing. Lord

complaints, too, were made of the conduct of the Amceus and their people in the re-surveys.

He still trusted that Act IX of 1847 as a whole might be re-considered by Government, and that a broad and liberal measure might be introduced to set the vexed question at rest.

Mr. Hogg said, he did not perceive what advantage there was in introducing this section. It seemed to him that, by Clause 3, Section 4 of Regulation XI of 1825, if an island was thrown up, and the channel between it and the mainland was not fordable, the mere fact of the channel subsequently becoming fordable would not interfere with the Government right to the island. If that was a correct view of the existing law, the use of introducing the section which had given rise to the present discussion was not apparent.

Mr. Thompson explained that by Clause 3, Section 4 of Regulation XI of 1825, an island, while in the state of an island, separated from the mainland by deep unfordable water, might be taken possession of by Government. Before Act IX of 1847 was passed, the Government could at any time have taken possession, and then by Regulation XI of 1825, the island would be at the disposal of Government. But by Act IX of 1847, Government could not assert its title to the possession of an island which was thrown up in a river or in the sea, till after the approval of the revenue survey of a district, and no second survey of a district could be made till the expiration of at least ten years from the time of the previous survey. Act IX of 1847 had thus caused delay, during which, by the action of the river, what was originally an island, very often might be joined to the mainland, or be only separated from it by fordable water. Thus, when the Government went into Court, and claimed possession, the Court had held that the status of the island at the time the Government came into Court must be the guide by which the right of Government ought to be determined, and therefore though the land was originally of a character such as the Government could take possession of, the ten years' delay had prevented the Government's occupation, in consequence of the accretions, by means of which the island had subsequently become part of the neighbouring zemindary. Under those circumstances, he thought it must be admitted that the ten years' rule had caused great hardship to Government. If the Government at any time took possession of an island in the status and condition of an island, subsequent accretions to that island were the right of Government, in the same way as accretions to a zemindary were increments to that estate under the law. He would give an illustration. The hon'ble member who had dissented from the Majority of the Committee was a large proprietor of estates near large rivers. We would suppose that an island had arisen in the neighbourhood of his property, and that Government, after taking possession of it, had "disposed of" it by selling it to the hon'ble member. If, after five or ten years' occupation by him, the island became joined to the mainland, would not the hon'ble member consider it a hardship to have to surrender the island to the zemindar to whose estate the island was contiguous or attached? And yet that was the course which he advocated where the Government was concerned!

Mr. DAMPIER said, in continuation of the remarks of the hon'ble mover of the Bill, he would

observe that the substantive law on the subject was contained in Regulation XI of 1825. That was the law which declared the right as to accretions to the mainland, and as to islands. For certain reasons, it was found that the constant working of the law, frequent surveying and making enquiries, caused much harassment and annoyance. Therefore, for no other object than to save that harassment and annoyance, and not with any object of transferring rights as declared by Regulation XI of 1825 from one party to another, Act IX of 1847 was passed. That Act provided that when a district had been surveyed, and all rights settled, the settlement so made should remain in force, notwithstanding subsequent changes in the face of the country, until at least ten years had elapsed from the date of the survey, the sole object, he would repeat, being to avoid vexation and harassment, and not to transfer rights as declared by existing law. The object of Act IX of 1847 being this, it had happened, as was described by the hon'ble mover of the Bill, that the operation of the Act frequently entailed incidentally a transfer of rights; for, if an island chur, the right to which, under Regulation XI of 1825, was vested in the Government, sprung up two years after a survey, and then in the interval, during which the Government was debarred by Act IX of 1847 from asserting its right (that was before the next survey), became no longer an island, but connected with the mainland—the right which the law of 1825 deliberately declared to belong to the Government, became transferred to the zemindar of the nearest estate. It had been found that as regards island, the law enacted in 1847, so far from preventing harassment and vexation to the people, had had the effect of causing disputes and affrays between parties neither of whom had any real right to the islands thrown up. This Bill had therefore been introduced on the ground that more harm than good was done to the public by delaying the assertion of the right of Government to such islands, and its object was simply to allow the Government to assert an indubitable right as soon as it accrued. As the hon'ble member on his left (Mr. Hogg) had said, he (Mr. Dampier) fully believed that Clause 3, Section 4 of Regulation XI of 1825, would have all the effect of this section, even if this section were excluded from the present Bill. But as the question had been raised and discussed, he should be extremely sorry to have the section now struck out, because those who might hereafter read the law with the help of this discussion, would perhaps think that the Council was not deliberately and positively of opinion that the right to an island vested in the Government.

With reference to the remarks of the hon'ble member opposite (Mr. Sutherland), he might observe that the Government had considered, with the attention they deserved, the discussions that had lately appeared in the public prints, as well as the memorials which had been presented by the Landholders' Association and others, on the general subject of the evils of re-surveys under Act IX of 1847 after ten years. The subject was one of difficulty, and required much enquiry, and the Government was not yet in a position to come to final conclusion on it. But the object of the present Bill was distinct from the general question raised in those discussions, and need not interfere with the future consideration of it.

Mr. Thompson said, the memorial of the British Indian Association which took objection to the present Bill, and was supported by the hon'ble member opposite (Baboo Ramanath Tagore), appeared to be a remarkable document. They admitted that the right to the possession of the land as an island was vested in Government, and they admitted that there was no provision by the law, as it now stood, as to who should occupy an island chur of the kind under notice, during the intermediate decennial period, and that in consequence frequent quarrels and disputes might and do arise. Still the whole gist of their memorial was that the ten years' rule was a good one, because it interposed a delay by which the status of the island was often changed, and thus by gradual accretions and extensions the island attached itself to the mainland, and thus became a part of the estate of the neighbouring zemindar. It was not denied that in its island character the chur was at the disposal of Government; and if the Government chose to sell it, and subsequently the island became attached to the mainland, would not the right be still with the purchaser? Here the Government would have no concern in the matter, and he (Mr. Thompson) should think that there would be no question that in such a case all the accretions to the chur, held as a separate estate on the Collectorate Towjee, would be accretions to the property of the purchaser.

The question about the advisability of altering the law arose many years ago, when Mr. Seonce, who had had large experience of the operation of the law as to churs, wrote:—

"Section 7 of Act IX of 1847 applies to churs or islands the property of Government, and appears to confine the assumption of possession of a new chur to the completion of a new survey. But the nature of things seems to run counter to this construction. A new island rising in a large channel, and approaching only by boat, is no man's land. By law, the title is with Government only; and it would seem that Government should assert both possession and title whenever the opportunity presents itself. To the best of my belief, this is the practice in the District of Bulloah,—a district which was, and probably is, most fertile in new churs; but, at any rate, the proper course to be followed in such cases, in Bulloah or elsewhere, may deserve consideration. Possibly, the law may mean that a Collector might watch the growth of a chur for ten or more years; might see one man and then another enter into occupation; but, nevertheless, that he who alone had legal title should keep aloof. In the case of a quarrel, it might even be the fact of a Magistrate to declare that neither of two claimants had a right of occupancy, and to offer the disputed land to Collector, who by law could not take possession. There seems to be something so unreasonable in this course of proceeding, that if dictated by the law, possibly the law should be changed."

That unreasonable proceeding was what we now wished to do away with, by repealing the ten years' rule. It had been alleged by the British Indian Association that the present rule was a fair one, because zemindars suffered so much from diluvion, and therefore zemindars should have the chance of the eventual proprietorship of such islands to make good their losses. He (Mr. Thompson) distinctly denied that the possibility of islands attaching themselves to estates, and thereby compensating for losses by diluvion, formed any part of the consideration upon which Act IX. of 1847 was passed. It was a law based on considerations of compensation and balance. But the nature of this was, as an hon'ble member (Mr. Dampier) had explained, that whatever accrued to a zemindar's estate during the ten years,

should remain in his possession free from public assessment; and for what was lost by diluvion during that period, there should be no diminution of Government revenue. The loss in one case should be balanced by the gain in the other; but the question of islands, and the manner of their occupation, was provided for in quite a distinct section, and was no element in the considerations of the compensating principle upon which the law under review was passed.

Apart from this, it seemed to him (Mr. Thompson) very remarkable that the British Indian Association, admitting and recognizing throughout their letter the principle referred to of compensation and balance, should conclude their suggestions as follows:—

"The Committee are humbly of opinion that the present opportunity should be taken to remove the blot which disfigures the otherwise excellent law of 1847. It gives the zemindar no power to claim abatement in case of loss by diluvion within the decennial period."

The principle of gain and loss being admitted, it seemed rather peculiar that the Association should claim abatement of revenue in cases of loss, when no assessment was to be made for accretions during the same period.

BABOO RAMANATH TAGORE said, if he had rightly understood the hon'ble mover of the Bill, he thought that the Government had the power of selling an island after taking possession. He (Baboo Ramanath Tagore) denied that right. He said that the Government had no power to sell an island of which it might take possession under the existing law. Under Clause 3, Section 4 of Regulation XI of 1825, when an island was thrown up, Government might take possession, but the moment the channel between it and the mainland became fordable, the island must be given over to the zemindar near whose estate the island had formed. The law of 1825, as he understood it, contemplated that Government should act as trustees; they should take possession, and give it over to the zemindar. He did not contend that Government had not the power of assessing the land. He said that they had as much power of assessing an island as they had of making a permanent settlement. But he questioned the right of Government to take the island and lay out money on it, or sell it. The British Indian Association, therefore, said that Government having at present no power to take possession or interfere with any island until the next survey, the best course would be that Government should take possession as trustees. If after ten years the island attached itself to the mainland, it would go to the proprietor near whose estate the island had formed. Under the proposed scheme the proviso in Clause 3 of Section 4 of Regulation XI of 1825, would become entirely nugatory: the island would become the perpetual property of Government. That was his real reason for opposing the 4th Section of this Bill. He said, let the Government enjoy what the law gave them; but why give them a right which they never had?

Mr. Trevor said, a very few words would tend to show that the hon'ble member on his left (Baboo Ramanath Tagore) had quite misunderstood the meaning of Clause 3, Section 4 of Regulation XI of 1825. The clause must be read as one. It began with asserting that when a chur or island might be thrown up in a large navigable river, it became the property of Government. Then it went on to say: But if the channel between such island and the shore

was fordable at any season of the year, it should belong to the person whose estate was most contiguous. The question was, to what time did that apply? For an answer to that, you must look to the opening words of the clause, "when the chur gr island is thrown up," &c. If at that time the channel were fordable, the island should be considered an accession to the land of proprietor whose estate was most contiguous. But if at the time the island appeared there was an unfordable channel on both sides, then the first part of the clause solely applied, and the island was at the disposal of Government. The present Bill, in his (Mr. Trevor's) opinion, in no way contravened either the right of Government or of individuals, conferred by Clause 3, Section 4 of Regulation XI of 1825. It, on the contrary, appeared exactly in accordance with that law. He therefore hoped that the hon'ble member would agree to the passing of this Bill.

THE ADVOCATE GENERAL said, he wished to say one word in support of what had fallen from the hon'ble member who spoke last. The only doubt he had with regard to this section was as to its necessity. But after the strong opinions expressed, he thought it was in every way desirable that the section should stand to avoid possible doubts. But for such opinions, he should have thought nothing could possibly be clearer than that the Legislature in Clause 3, Section 4 of Regulation XI of 1825 referred, and referred only, to the status of the island at the time of its original formation—that the right of the Government depended on the consideration whether the channel was then fordable or not; it was not to remain contingent or fluctuating on any subsequent condition of the channel.

The Council then divided on the motion to omit Section 4 :—

Ayes 4.	Noes 9.
Boomar Satyanand Ghosal.	Mr. Sutherland.
Baboo Peary Chand Mittra.	Mr. Aleock.
Baboo Bahmanath Tagore.	Mr. Knowles.
Boomar Harendra Krishna.	Mr. Hogg.
	Mr. Thompson.
	Mr. Trevor.
	Mr. Dampier.
	The Advocate-General.
	The President.

The motion was therefore negatived, and the section was passed after a verbal amendment.

Section 5 empowered the Collector to lay out public ways in churs and islands.

MR. DAMPIER said, he would ask the hon'ble mover of the Bill to explain exactly what power it was intended to give to the Collector by Section 5 of the Bill. The Council had accepted it as the law that an island once thrown up was the absolute property of Government. The Government might therefore of course sell or otherwise dispose of it. He (Mr. Dampier) would apply this section to the case of such an island being sold by Government, and of which the purchasing zemindar had been in possession for several years, and had covered the land with the sub-tenures, and so on. Suddenly the channel on one side between the mainland became fordable. He wished to know what was to be the power of the Collector to interfere with the ryots and other persons who had acquired

rights in the soil. Government had the power to take up land for roads under the existing law; but because the status of the land was originally insular, was the Collector to have absolute power for all time to lay out roads and ways?

MR. THOMPSON said, the section was introduced on the suggestion made by an hon'ble member (Mr. Knowles) when the Bill was read in Council. On the junction of an island with the mainland it would in many cases operate hardly upon the zemindar that he should lose his river frontage; and it was thought that some provision of law should be made by which the riparian proprietor should have access to the river. The objections brought forward were certainly strong in the case where a chur was sold by Government. The section would give the power to any proprietor to call upon the Collector to make a road across the island, though Government might have no property in the chur; but he thought the principle of the section was right, and that where a river frontage was lost to a landed proprietor, some provision should be made to afford access to the river. Perhaps it would answer if a clause were inserted providing that such roads should be made at the expense of the applicants.

MR. DAMPIER said, subject to any wish that there might be to have a clause differently framed, he would move the omission of the section. He did not say that the Government should not be obliged to make such roads where the right of Government only was affected; but as the clause stood, the power was unlimited and undefined, and, whatever it was, extended to the rights of all parties.

THE ADVOCATE GENERAL said, he should support the amendment, if only on this ground that the section as it stood might possibly involve a principle which it might be desirable to have carried out, but which could not be done by this section. The section went too far: *first*, as the power of the Collector to interfere was not limited to the period during which the island was in the possession of Government. Again, as the section stood, it applied to all islands, and might apply to islands never taken possession of by Government. The island might be an accretion to the estate of a neighbouring zemindar, and why should he be allowed to call on the Collector to provide ways?

MR. KNOWLES said, there was no doubt a great deal could be said on both sides. Of some such clause were not introduced, the neighbouring zemindar would suffer much greater hardship than the new proprietor. The Collector could see that too much inconvenience was not suffered by the proprietor of the new island, and he (Mr. Knowles) would suggest that the section be allowed to stand.

THE PRESIDENT said, it seemed to him that the last objection taken by the learned Advocate General was fatal to the section as it stood. He (the President) would therefore vote for its being omitted. But he should be glad to see a different section, somewhat on the same principle, introduced afterwards.

MR. THOMPSON intimated his intention of submitting a section for the approval of the Council before the Bill was passed.

The motion for the omission of Section 5 was then agreed to; and the further consideration of the Bill was postponed.

POLICE AND CONSERVANCY OF TOWNS.

Mr. DAMPIER moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill "to amend and consolidate the law for the regulation of Police in towns under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and for the conservancy and improvement thereof," be taken into consideration, in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill, and that the clauses be considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee. In doing so, he said, the Report of the Select Committee had been some days in the hands of hon'ble members. When he had the honor to move the Bill he read in Council, he said that in consideration of the wide range in degree of advancement, and in the characters, of the towns to which he proposed the law should apply, he had not up to that time been able to devise any provisions which should be applicable to all such towns, and which should give to what were then called Panchayets anything more than a consultative position. He had said that if in Committee or elsewhere any hon'ble member could suggest any provisions by which larger powers could be given, he should be happy to see them introduced. That object, he was glad to say, had been attained in Committee.

The main points in which the Bill had been amended, had been stated in the printed Report of the Select Committee; he should therefore now only notice two or three of the chief of those points. The first was the omission from the Bill of the power to impose a rate on the annual value of property within a town. Such an alternative mode of assessment was allowed by Act XX of 1856; but the Committee had accepted the principle that where a town was not ripe for the introduction of the District Municipal Improvement Act, the house and land property in such town might be assumed not to have reached that value which could make them proper data for an assessment for municipal purposes. The Committee had therefore limited the tax under the Bill to the other mode which had been in force under Act XX of 1856, *viz.*, an assessment according to the circumstances, and the property to be protected, of the person liable.

The Bill, when laid before the Select Committee, contained a provision that the Panchayets should assist the Magistrate with their advice only. In Act XX of 1856 they were only vested with the power of making the assessment, and were to report Chowkeydars when absent from duty. They had nothing to do with the works that were to be carried on out of the surplus of the tax after paying for the Police. The Select Committee in the body of the Bill, had provided that the Committees, which were to take the place of the Panchayets, should have consultative powers only; but in view, as he had said, of the large range and difference of character of the towns to which the Bill would be extended, sections had been introduced which would enable the Government to vest any such Committee, of which the Magistrate should then be Chairman, with any of the powers which the body of the Act vested in the Magistrate himself. Sections had been introduced as to the constitution of these Local Committees, enabling the Government to lay down different rules for the appointment of members of the Committees in different towns according to the stage of advancement which each town might have reached. Unless any other

mode of appointment were prescribed, the Magistrate, with sanction of the Commissioner of the Division, was to nominate the members of the Committee; but provision was made for the election of the members when the Government had reason to believe that the town was far enough advanced. Those members who were not so ex-officio, were to retire in rotation, one-third going out every year, but were eligible for re-appointment. At the urgent instance of their native colleagues, the Committee had taken away the penalty for refusing to serve on a Panchayet. That had been done in the deference to native feeling on the subject. The native members of Council appeared to think that natives of respectability would consider the mere existence of a section in the Act prescribing penalties for a refusal to serve, to be indignity to gentlemen of respectability who were likely to be chosen as members. It could not be denied that in working the proposed law the Government would have to rely materially on the co-operation of the native community. Therefore, at the urgent instance of the hon'ble members who represented the native community, the Select Committee had struck out the penalty clause. The Committee had given power to the Government to introduce certain modified provisions for conservancy, and had inserted clauses to prevent difficulties arising from mere informalities. It was his (Mr. Dampier's) wish to give the Government power to extend to places which might be brought under the operation of this Bill, according to their requirements, any of the conservancy clauses of District Municipal Improvement Act. If the Committee had agreed to that, the necessity of retaining some 20 Sections of the Bill would have been saved. But he could carry his own views in Committee, and intended to propose to the Council an amendment on the point.

The consideration of Section 1 was postponed.

Section 2 was agreed to, after the omission of the words "not being a cantonment" in the 3rd line.

In Section 3 the words "so far as the same relates to towns as therein defined," in the 8th and 9th lines were struck out.

Section 4 was agreed to with the addition of the word "only" after the word "agriculture" in the 6th line.

Section 5 provided for the formation of Unions.

Mr. THOMPSON moved that this section be left out. He said he objected to the principle of the section. He considered all systems of grouping, whether for purpose of representation, as suggested in higher places, or for Conservancy and Police as in this Bill, were bad in principle. The principle of this section had been in force since Act XX of 1856 had been passed, and experience had shown that whatever amount of care or supervision was exercised, the result was always the same, that larger places benefited solely at the expense of the smaller places which composed the union; and the collections, intended equally or nearly equally for places paying the assessment, were appropriated, in nearly every instance, to those places which had the largest interest and influence in the distribution of the funds. The Hon'ble Mover of the Bill had adverted to those inequalities in his own speech on the introduction of the Bill, and had given us some experiences of his own as a Commissioner of a Division, which told strongly in support of his (Mr. Thompson's) contention. Another hon'ble member had also in-

vanced similar cases. The present Bill, it was true, provided some restrictions in the power of forming unions, and had limited the distances within which unions might be created, and so far it was an improvement; but he (Mr. Thompson) was still opposed to the principle as a bad one, and one which would always work badly. The places to which this Bill would apply would in most cases be remote from the head-quarters of the district, and there would be no check against inequalities and improprieties, such as had too often been experienced already where the system of unions prevailed. He would remind the Council that they were coming to some very formidable section in the Bill, providing complicated machinery and details for the conduct of business; and it was very difficult to realize how it would be practicable to carry on the business which the Bill required, where the members composing the Town Committees had to meet together from distant places, and bring into harmony their differing interests and opposite claims. To show how the system had worked hitherto, he would beg to refer the Council to a petition from the inhabitants of certain villages near Moorshedabad, which was printed as an annexure to the present Bill. They said:—

"That your petitioners are inhabitants of certain villages, situated on the west bank of the River Bhauggrutty, in the District of Moorshedabad, and have been subject to the provisions of Act XX of 1856, the introduction of which, however, at an early date, had not been very generally known to them, a greater portion of them being people in very low circumstances of life, till the increase of the taxes from year to year disabased their minds; for heretofore they were under the belief that it was a tax imposed simply to defray the charge of maintaining Chowkeydars.

"That since the past four or five years the tax has been so increased as to make it to be felt a grievous hardship by the inhabitants, some of whose taxes were increased all on a sudden from Rupees 1-8 a year to Rupees 6, and in one case from Rupees 8 to Rupees 36 a year, at the same time beyond the services of a Chowkeydar at night, which again have been of late dispensed with. The inhabitants did in no instance ever derive a particle of benefit from the operation of the Act, the surplus being always expended for Municipal purposes on the other side of the river.

"That the petitioners' villages, it appears, have been united to the City Union. The city of Moorshedabad, however, is pretty nearly five miles distant from the villages on the west bank of the River Bhauggrutty, and the Notification, by which this union had been formed, had never come under the observation of your petitioners, who seldom have any opportunity of reading the *Gazette*."

The Council would observe that the establishment of the unions was in this case without knowledge on the part of the inhabitants, and, as would be seen below, without any advantages to the parties who formed the union. In another part the petitioners said:—

"The villages your petitioners inhabit have no roads, nor is there, from the situation of the houses, as also of the river bank, the slightest possibility of any being made: Municipal improvement therefore, however desirable, is entirely out of question in such places."

The British Indian Association also had referred to some inequalities and difficulties in connection with this subject. They said, referring to Act III of 1864 (even under that law which applied to larger towns and places of some importance this objection had been found in the working of it):

"There are a of Municipalities is so largely extended, comprising villages which do not at all possess any of the distinguishing characteristics of a town, and are not, therefore, advanced for Municipal Government; that the people not naturally infer that the inclusion of such villages is made solely for the purpose of taxation, and not for that of improvement."

The Hon'ble Mover of the Bill had been kind enough to say, during the discussions in Select Committee, that he would be open to accept any compromise which was reasonable, with a view to do away with the admitted evils of the system. He (Mr. Thompson) had accordingly given some attention to the subject, and it seemed to him that if the section was to be retained, the only suggestion which he could make was that there should be a provision in the Bill, that a fair proportion of the funds which were raised in any place should be appropriated to that place; but if that was allowed, he thought there would be no necessity of having unions at all, for each place under such circumstances would be able to stand by itself.

Mr. DAMPIER said, if the Council was of opinion that the formation of unions should not be permitted, he had no objection to offer to the motion. But if any of the subsequent sections of the Bill were materially altered, it might be necessary for him to call attention again to Section 5, Assuming, however, that the other sections passed as the Bill stood, he had no objection to the present motion.

Mr. HOSE said, it had been suggested that the system of unions should not be introduced, and if this was done, each village or each town would have to be formed into Municipality, and to have a complicated system of Municipal management. He would submit that to say these small towns should not assist each other, was altogether wrong in principle. It might as well be argued that every small street in Calcutta was to have the tax raised in it, expended on that street. It would preclude the possibility of large improvements in any place. He thought the Council might well leave it to the discretion of the local authorities to decide what villages should be brought into unions, those Officers having better means of judging of the propriety of dealing with villages under this Bill. He would therefore leave the formation of unions entirely to the discretion of the Government.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said, he rose not for the purpose of expressing any opinion with regard to the desirability of omitting or retaining this section, but he desired to have some information as to the point whether practically this section would enable the establishment of unions in such towns or places to which the Municipal system of 1864 would not be applicable. He thought the Bill ought only to be extended to such places as could support the machinery that this Bill contemplated.

At the suggestion of the PRESIDENT, the consideration of the section was postponed.

Section 6 provided for the definition of the limits of the places to which the Act might be extended, and who should be liable to the assessment of the tax.

MR. DAMPIER said, he thought the consideration of the first clause of the section might be postponed. He would move the insertion of the following proviso to the section:—

"Provided also that if any house or building be occupied by two or more separate families, not being tenants of one common landlord, the head of every such separate family shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to be the occupier of a separate house."

It had been suggested to him that in the Mofussil there were numerous houses occupied by different branches of the same family living in different compartments, and he had been informed

that in practice each of these compartments had been treated as a separate house. If this proviso was introduced, the effect would be that the maximum of five Rupees for each house, which was imposed by another section of the Bill, would be removed, and the maximum would become five Rupees for every separate family occupying a portion of a house.

BABOO RAMANATH TAGORE said, supposing one house was occupied by five families, and each family only occupied two rooms in the house, would those five families be obliged to pay five Rupees each?

MR. DAMPIER replied that each person ought to be assessed according to his means and the property to be protected. If he was in a position to pay the maximum, he did not see why he should not be required to pay it.

BABOO PEARY CHAND MITTRA said, if the proposed proviso was carried, it must lead to the making up enquiries as to the number of families and persons living in each house. As a rule every native house was occupied by more than one family. All the sons of a Hindu gentleman kept the same house, be their condition whatever it might be, whether they belonged to the middle, upper, or lower class. The law should be made simple, so as to levy a certain rate from each house; but if enquiry had to be made whether a house was occupied by several families, it must necessarily lead to difficulties and vexation, and give rise to extortion on the part of those who might be employed to make the enquiries. Taking all circumstances into consideration, he thought the gain would be the greater by assessing each house. By the system proposed you might gain more in a pecuniary point of view, but it would be at the expense of the peace and contentment of the people.

MR. HOGG agreed with the hon'ble member who spoke last. He did not think that the amendment could be practically carried out. It was imposing a very difficult duty on the executive, who could never ascertain what persons ought to be assessed without resorting to inquisitorial proceedings. But when the section for limiting the amount to be levied from any one individual to five Rupees was before the Council, he would propose that the limit be altogether removed. A zemindar who occupied a house with a rental of 500 Rupees, would under the Bill have to pay the same as a man whose means bore no comparison to the zemindar's. Again by another section cook-rooms, stables, shops, warehouses, orchards, gardens, and tanks, would be excluded from the assessment. He (Mr. Hogg) thought that a house with all its appurtenances and everything included in it should be taken into consideration when making the assessment.

THE ADVOCATE GENERAL said, the discussion seemed rather to be sliding to the general question as to whether we should have an assessment or not. He did not think the observations with regard to the position of joint-families arose on this section. He wished to understand whether the clause here was intended to apply to cases of sub-occupation by separate persons having separate families.

MR. DAMPIER said, the subject had been pressed on him very strongly by an Officer of great experience, and it seemed a reasonable provision to make.

The motion was then negatived, and the further consideration of the section was postponed.

Section 7 was agreed to

Section 8 was agreed to with a verbal amendment.

Section 9 was agreed to.

Section 10 provided that the Police paid under the Act were not to be employed beyond the limits of the town to which they belonged.

MR. HOGG asked if the Police would not be bound to serve processes out of the limits of the town.

MR. DAMPIER said, they would certainly not be bound to do so; they would be entirely paid by the town, and should not be required to act except in the town, and for the purposes of the Act.

The consideration of the section was then postponed.

Section 11 provided for the monthly payment of the Police.

BABOO PEARY CHAND MITTRA said, he would like to be informed whether or not the surplus proceeds of the Cattle Trespass Fund would be available for the partial payment of the Police.

MR. DAMPIER said, if he should attempt to describe what became of the Cattle Trespass Fund, he should have to enter into an explanation of the whole system on which local and imperial roads were provided for. The Cattle Trespass Fund was applied to the construction and improvement of local roads and communications, but in a different sense to the improvement the Council was now considering. The fund went to the local fund of the district, and to the funds of town.

The consideration of the section was then postponed.

Sections 12 and 13 were agreed to.

Section 14 related to the application of the Town Fund, and provided that no large sum than Rupees fifty per mensem should be applied to vaccination, and the establishment and maintenance of dispensaries and hospitals.

MR. HOGG thought it was difficult to define the amount required for dispensaries and hospitals in the different towns. He would therefore move the omission of the proviso at the end of the section, which laid down the limit of Rupees fifty.

MR. DAMPIER said, he agreed with the hon'ble member, but had failed to carry his view in Committee. The section was taken from the Act lately passed for amending the District Municipal Improvement Act. At that time he (Mr. Dampier) had opposed such limit, for the simple reason that one Municipality might have an income of Rupees 10,000 a year, and another of Rupees 1,000; and why we should limit the discretion of the Municipality he could not understand.

KOOMAR HARENDRA KRISHNA said, in the larger towns Act III of 1864 would be in force. This Bill would only take effect in the smaller towns. Experience had shown that even in the larger Municipalities, the funds might not be properly applied. How then could we expect always to have a proper application of money in the small towns to which this Bill would apply. The motive of the limit was that the Town Committees might not be able to spend more than was absolutely necessary; and we could not consider that the circumstances of any town would be such as to make it proper that a larger sum than Rupees fifty a month should be expended in support of hospitals and dispensaries.

MR. DAMPIER said, the extra-suburban unions, under Act XX of 1856, realised from Rupees 70,000 to 80,000 annually, and the limit given in this section was quite unsuitable to a place where the amount collected was of such magnitude. The object of the Bill was to give the Government power to everything as circumstances required.

BABOO RAMANATH TAGORE said, he was one of the members of the Select Committee who supported this section. His object was that the additional one anna per house, which was imposed by the Bill on the poor ryots and others, was solely intended for the construction and maintenance of roads and tanks, and for conservancy purposes. And as for vaccination and dispensaries, considering the towns where this Act would be introduced, he believed they would hardly be appreciated. The people in the Mofussil generally were very averse to English medicines, and many even believed that if they once went to a hospital, they would never be allowed to come out. He did not mean to say that was the feeling of all the natives in the Mofussil; but he knew that the ignorant entertained such fears, however absurd they were.

Another reason for the retention of the proviso was, that money raised for roads and conservancy ought not to be laid out for purposes for which zemindars and others were constantly making provision. Some Magistrates might think that the establishment of hospitals and dispensaries was far better than roads, tanks, and conservancy; but they forgot that if you have good roads and tanks, and clean places, there would be no necessity for hospitals. The former would operate as a preventive of sickness, while the latter as a curative only.

Again, in a Municipality there was a tendency to spend more money than was necessary. Take for instance, the Calcutta Pauper Hospital. When it was in the hands of the Government, the annual expenditure was not more than Rupees 16,000 or 17,000; but the moment it was placed under the Municipality, the expenditure rose to about Rupees 35,000, because what was everybody's money was nobody's money. He therefore thought if the object of the Bill was for the purpose of providing good roads and good tanks, the section should be left as it was. He might add that as that section permitted the expenditure of Rupees 50 per month for dispensaries and hospitals, where an urgent need might arise for the application of the Municipal Funds to such purposes, that object could be fulfilled under the section as it stood. Rupees 50, in his opinion, would be quite sufficient, considering the places where these hospitals and dispensaries would be established.

The Council then divided on Mr. Hogg's amendment:

Ayes 9.
Mr. Sutherland.
Mr. Alcock.
Mr. Knowles.
Mr. Hogg.
Mr. Thompson.
Mr. Trevor.
Mr. Dampier.
The Advocate-General.
The President.

Noes 4.
Koomar Satyanund Ghosal.
Baboo Peary Chand Mittra.
Baboo Ramanath Tagore.
Koomar Harendra Krishna.

The motion was carried, and the section as amended agreed to.

Section 15 related to the preparation of the Police Budget.

Mr. Hogg rose for the purpose of asking a question as to the estimates.—

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL rose to order. He thought the proceedings of the Council were drifting into mere conversation. When the question was put by the President, any member who objected ought to be prepared to move a formal amendment.

THE PRESIDENT said, no doubt the proper course was to put formal amendments; but it was open to any hon'ble member to ask questions.

MR. DAMPIER said, he would explain the system of estimates provided for in the Bill. The estimates were to be in two parts. First, the Magistrate was to draw up an estimate for Police, with which the Town Committee had no power to interfere. The second part was for conservancy, which was prepared by the Magistrate, with the advice of the members of the Committee, and in that part of the estimate they had a voice, and they had a right to record objections, which by another section must be submitted to higher authority. The two parts, the Police Budget, and the Conservancy Budget, formed the aggregate estimate for the town.

Section 15 was then agreed to.

Section 16 related to the preparation of an estimate, for all purposes other than Police.

MR. THOMPSON asked if the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill would wish him to move here the amendment as to the duties of Town Committees, of which he had given notice. The President said, he perceived that there were two amendments of which the hon'ble member had given notice. The first amendment, for the omission of Section 5, was a specific amendment, which had been put to the Council. The second amendment was a very indefinite one, and should never have been put on the Council Paper. If the hon'ble member had any specific amendment to make, he might do so.

The consideration of this section, and of Section 17, was then postponed.

Section 18 was passed after a verbal amendment.

Section 19 was agreed to.

Section 20 was passed after a verbal amendment.

Section 21 was agreed to.

Section 22 having been read—

MR. DAMPIER moved that all the words after the word "year" in the 16th line, be omitted, and the following words be substituted for them:—

"It shall also be lawful to declare the date from which the assessment made under the provisions of this Act shall take effect, provided that the amount of tax to be levied in respect to any portion of the year which shall remain unexpired on the date from which the said assessment may take effect, shall not bear a greater proportion to the maximum amount leviable under this Act on account of a whole year, than such unexpired portion of a year shall bear to a whole year."

The motion was carried, and the section as amended was agreed to.

The further consideration of the Bill was then postponed.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 23rd instant.

Pensionary Claims of persons employed under Municipalities, or in Establishments maintained from Local Funds.

From J. E. COOKE, Esq., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, — (No. 2197, dated Fort William, the 24th April 1863.)

ORDERED, that an extract of the 2nd and the following paragraphs of the Resolution, and a copy of the Memorandum be sent to the Government of Bengal.

Extract Financial Resolution No. 2197, dated the 24th April 1863.

PARA.—2. The rulings of the Home Authorities and the Government of India respecting the pensionary claims of persons employed under Municipalities or in Establishments maintained from Local Funds are stated in the accompanying memorandum. There is no objection, under those rulings, to the pensioning of persons in otherwise eligible grades, who may be employed in Establishments controlled by Government and paid from Local Funds, provided that the pensions be paid from the same source from which those persons received their salaries.

3. This proviso makes it indispensable that the income of the Local Funds which incur this liability for pension, should be derived from taxation like the cesses on land revenue, for education, roads, &c., or from other permanent sources, like those of the Bengal Amalgamated District Roads' Fund, and not from charitable donations or voluntary and revocable contributions, like some of the contributions for schools, which are comprehended in Local Funds under a loose acceptance of the term.

4. In the same view it is indispensable that the Local Funds should, as to the sources of their income, be under the control of Government, although Municipal Committees may, as in the interior of the Bombay Presidency, be employed to administer the funds.

5. The eligibility for pension from the source from which salary is paid of persons employed on establishments maintained from such Local Funds as fulfil these two conditions, is recognized by the rulings in the accompanying memorandum, and it may be provided for in such a way as to facilitate transfers of persons from establishments paid from Local Funds to those maintained from the general revenues and *vice versa*.

6. The Governor General in Council is accordingly pleased to rule—

I.—That persons employed in Establishments that are maintained from Local Funds, which fulfil the two indispensable conditions above stated, shall be eligible to pension under the Uncovenanted Service Pension Rules, on the understanding that when the service has been rendered wholly on those Establishments, the pension shall be charged to those funds.

II.—That where a person has served partly in the Establishments appertaining to the Local Funds above described, and partly in Establishments paid from the general revenue, the pension shall be charged to the Local Fund and to the general revenue in the proportion of the total receipts of the applicant from those sources during the whole course of his service.

III.—That the pension, or portion of pension, which may be payable from a Local Fund under the two preceding rules shall be the first charge on the fund, so that provision to meet it shall be reserved before other expenditure of the year is defrayed from the fund.

IV.—That the pension, if payable partly from the general revenues, shall, during the course of the year, be disbursed wholly from those revenues, which will be recouped at the end of the year by the proper contribution from the Local Fund from the sum to be reserved for the purpose under Rule III.

V.—That where the strength and pay of an Establishment are fixed with the sanction of the Government of India, pension for service on such an Establishment shall be charged to the general revenues, although a portion of the cost be defrayed by a contribution from a Local Fund, unless a debt of a part of the pension to the Local Fund be ordered in regulating the fund's contribution.

7. The Engineer Officers employed under Municipal Committees in the interior of the Bombay Presidency may be graded with the Imperial Public Works Department, on the understanding that their pay will be disbursed wholly from Local Funds that their pensions will be adjusted under these rules; and that the income of the Local Funds will be secured by the levy of the anna cess, for which permission to legislate has been accorded by the Secretary of State.

E. H. LUSHINGTON,

Secretary to the Government of India.

MEMORANDUM.

QUESTIONS have arisen from time to time regarding the eligibility to pension of persons employed.

1. By Municipalities.

2. In Establishments which are paid from Local Funds, and also of Government servants who are permitted to take the foregoing employments.

2. The decisions on these subjects are numerous, but not inconsistent, when the governing principles of the decisions are regarded.

3. The two fundamental principles are that pensions—

1. Shall be restricted to service under Government, or in Establishments which are controlled by Government in such a manner that the officers employed in it are Government servants.

2. Shall be paid from the same source from which the salaries of the applicants for pension may have been defrayed.

4. In accordance with the first of these principles, service under Municipalities has held in the following decisions not to confer any claim to pension from the general revenues:—

I.—The Court of Directors in a letter No. 36, dated 21st July 1852, negatived an application for pension by an Uncovenanted Officer who had held different offices under Government for a period of 32 years, but whose salary, in the last six years of his service, had been paid from the Municipal Fund of Singapore. A gratuity of 12 months' pay was given in consideration of the applicant's summary dismissal, upon a ground which did not affect his moral character.

II.—In a letter No. 98, dated 3rd December 1856, the Court of Directors negatived, as quite inadmissible, an application for pension by House Assessor of the Town of Calcutta, his appointment having been held under the Municipal Commissioners, and his salary been charged upon the Municipal Funds.

III.—An Assistant Resident Councillor and Commissioner of Police at Singapore, whose salary for some years had been paid from Municipal Funds, was exempted, in the Secretary of State's Despatch No. 106, dated 16th May 1864, from the letter of the foregoing decisions, on the grounds that the appointments which he held (except for a short period in one year), though paid by the Municipality for some years, had been conferred upon him by Government, that the pay of these appointments had since become chargeable to the revenues of the Government of India, and that from 1855 he had been employed and paid by Government.

IV.—In 1865 the Government of India recommended to the Secretary of State for

Financial Proceedings, Nos. 146 to 150, August 1865.

India, with reference to the employment of Military Officers in the Office of Municipal Commissioner, "that the time passed by

"Officers in Municipal employ may be allowed to reckon as service towards pension, but that no such employment be permitted, save when officers can be spared from military duty, with the sanction of Government and the Commander-in-Chief of the Presidency to which they belong, and that they be considered liable to return to duty whenever their services are required." The Secretary of State for India regretted in a letter, dated 30th June 1865, that he was not able to allow the recommendation, adding—"there can be no objection to an Officer taking employment, of the nature referred to, during leave taken under the regulations of the service; but I cannot sanction the recognition of the time passed in such employment as qualifying towards pension under those regulations."

About the same time the Government of Bombay represented to the Government of India that they had appointed Major Thacker, an Officer of the Bombay Staff Corps, to be Controller of Municipal Accounts; that owing to the large debt due by the Municipality to Government, it was desirable that a Government Officer should fill the appointment, the Municipality paying his salary,—and that accordingly the Officer selected by the Government of Bombay might be allowed to count his service in the appointment "as service in India for all purposes, pension included, in the same manner as if it had been in any Office

Financial Proceedings, Nos. 146 to 150, August 1865.

"of the Account Department under the Government of India." The application was twice negatived by the Government of

India with reference to the decision of the Secretary of State, dated 30th June 1865, but simultaneously with its rejection for the second time, a further application from the Government of Bombay that Major Walker, Inspector-in-Chief of the Cotton Frauds Department, who was paid from a Local Fund, might be allowed to count his service towards pension, on the condition of his suffering a deduction of 34th per cent. from his salary, was granted without enforcing any deduction from his salary. In explanation of this distinction between the two Officers, it was pointed out that the Secretary of State's decision of 30th June 1865 was passed on the case of a Military Officer, whose appointment was "unconnected with the administration under His Excellency in Council," on which account Major Thacker, whose case was similar, could hold his appointment "only during leave taken under the regulations of the service, that is, during any furlough to which he may be entitled;" whereas Major Walker was differently circumstanced, "inasmuch as his appointment in the Cotton 'Frauds' Department is directly and exclusively under the administration of the Government of Bombay. All that had to be determined with regard to him was, whether his employment in the Cotton Frauds' Department was admissible or not; and that having been determined in his favor, he is entitled, in

"virtue of his Military Commission and Covenant, to count his service in that department towards Military pension without being required to submit to any deduction from his salary"

In a letter to the Secretary of State for India, dated 27th January 1866, the Government of Bombay demurred to the distinction that Major Walker's appointment was, but Major Thacker's appointment under the Municipality of Bombay was not, directly and exclusively under the administration of the Government of Bombay. This distinction (it was urged) did not in any way affect the financial aspect of the question, which would be met by a suitable deduction from Major Thacker's salary, on account of which he might be allowed to reckon towards pension his service in the Municipal appointment, which it was urged was of a quasi Government character.

The Secretary of State in a Despatch to the Government of Bombay, dated 17th April 1866, No. 45, replied that "the views expressed by the Government of India are in accordance with those communicated in the Financial Despatch dated the 16th December 1864, No. 302, and in the Military Despatches dated the 30th June and 15th December 1865, Nos. 215 and 351, and Her Majesty's Government see no reason to interfere with the decisions which have been passed in regard to the cases of Majors Walker and Thacker. Officers of the Army should not be employed in other than situations under Government, though there may be, as stated in paragraph 3 of the Military Despatch No. 215, no objection to an Officer taking employment of the nature referred to during leave taken under regulations of the service."

V.—In Financial Resolution No. 966, dated 18th July 1864, it was ruled, with respect to Municipal Police Forces in the interior of the three Presidencies, that where the Police of a town is wholly supported by, and under the control of a Municipality, no pension can be allowed to the force from either Imperial Revenues or a Police Superannuation Fund; but that wherever the Government is so much interested in the efficiency of Municipal Police as to undertake its organization and control, in connection with and auxiliary to the Constabulary, the responsibility connected with both the pay and pensions of such Municipal Police must rest with Government and the Police Superannuation Fund; the Police Cess going to relieve the Government as far as it may be.

5. The foregoing decisions are adverse to the reckoning of service towards pension in appointments under Municipalities in which the Officers are not under the direct and exclusive control of Government. But mere subordination, more or less, to Government control does not in itself bridge an appointment within the category of those which qualify for pension exclusively from the general revenue, it being another fundamental principle that pensions should be paid from the same source from which the salaries of the applicants for pension are defrayed.

6. In accordance with this latter principle, the following decisions have been passed:—

I.—When education was being introduced into the Bombay Presidency, numerous Vernacular Schools and several English Schools were established by Government, on the understanding that one-half of the pay of the Teachers would be paid by Government, and that the other half, with the remaining charges, would be defrayed by popular contributions. The Government of Bombay recommended that in the cases in which the Government pays half of the salary, pension computed on the full salary be granted, nevertheless, by the State, the School Masters being Government servants employed in Government Schools, the expense of which is partially defrayed by popular contributions. The Court of Directors in a Despatch No. 84, dated 17th September 1856, paragraphs 6 to 8, ruled that "we cannot adopt this principle with due regard to financial considerations."

"In cases in which the Masters and Assistant Masters of schools receive salaries of Rupees 10 per month and upwards, partly paid by Government, and partly by local contribution, the pension from the State on retirement must be computed only on the Government share of the salary, according to the length of service. If the Local Funds applicable to the schools should admit of the grant, an additional pension might be given from that source."

11.—In the same correspondence the Government of Bombay recommended that Masters of schools in Kattywar, which were under the control of the Director of Public Instruction, should be allowed pension from the general revenues, notwithstanding that their salaries were paid from the Infanticide Fund and by a contribution from the Native Chiefs. The Court of Directors replied in the Despatch above quoted, that "it does not appear that the Government pay any portion of the salaries, and in this case, therefore, the School Masters would not be entitled to receive pensions from the State, but they might from the old Infanticide Fund, from which the schools in question are supported."

III.—A like decision was passed respecting the Masters in the Elphinstone Institution, which is regarded by Government as an institution not differing substantially from a public establishment maintained by the State, but which is supported partly by Trust Funds. The pension of the Masters, it was held, should be borne by Government and the Trust Funds, in the proportion of their respective contributions towards the expenses of the school.

IV.—An equitable division of charge between the general revenues and Port Funds has

Finl. Pro., Nos. 80 to 82, June 1865.
" " " 29 & 30, " 1867.

been authorised in the case of a Master Attendant and other officials payable from a Port Fund, excepting that the whole charge

is borne by the fund when the service was rendered wholly on establishments chargeable to it.

V.—In a Despatch No. 57, dated 16th April 1863, the Secretary of State declined to

Financial Proceedings, Nos. 36 to 38,
January 1863.

allow pension "under the rules applicable to the members of the Uncovenanted Service,"

i. e., from the general revenues to clerks employed on the accounts of the Police Superannuation Fund, on the ground that "the clerks referred to do not appear to be strictly servants of Government,

* Municipal Funds.
District Local Funds.
Military and Medical Service Funds.

"and their salaries are defrayed from the fund and not by the Government; I see

Financial Proceedings, Nos. 47 to 49,
July 1863.

"no reason for making their cases exceptions to the rule under which clerks similarly

"employed by the other funds* noted by you are ineligible to the benefits of the

"Pension Rules." In a subsequent decision the Government of India allowed these clerks to subscribe for a pension to be paid from the Police Superannuation Funds.

VI.—The Government of Bombay proposed that service on the Establishments employed

under the Cotton Frauds' Act should count for pension under the Uncovenanted Service Pension Rules, that is, from the general revenues. The Government of India objected on the ground that the Cotton Frauds' Act is not a general but a Local Act based on a Local Fund, the income of which is connected with the operation of the Act. The Secretary of State for India negatived the proposition in a Despatch No. 302, dated 16th December 1864, observing that "if it were admitted that servants appointed under Local Acts, whose salaries are paid from fees levied under the provisions of those Acts, were to be granted superannuation pensions out of the general revenue, the charge to the State for those pensions would be largely and indefinitely increased. The correct principle in regard to superannuation appears to be that pensions should be granted out of the same funds from which the salaries have been paid."

7. In the foregoing decisions, the principles established are, that persons employed on the establishments of Local Funds should not be pensioned from the general revenues, but from the source from which their salaries are defrayed; and that if employed on Establishments which are maintained partly from the general revenues, and partly from a Local Fund, their pension from the general revenue should be limited in the same proportion.

8. These principles have been approved or affirmed by the Home Authorities. In 1861 the Government of India authorized the employment of Engineers of the Imperial Public Works Department as Divisional Engineers for the control of works under Road and Ferry Fund Committees, without prejudice to their prospects of promotion and furlough, and on the understanding that they should be considered as temporarily transferred to the Divisional Service. In a Financial Resolution dated 4th September

Proceedings, 1st and 2nd September 1862.

1862, it was ruled that the time spent by Government servants of the Public Works Department in superintending, by order of Government, local works under Road and Ferry Fund Committees, shall count towards pension. The charge of a portion of the pension to Local Funds was not stipulated for, and the decision was not reported to the Secretary of State. On a further enquiry, whether persons, who are wholly employed on Local Funds works, and have no connection with the Public Works Department should be considered to have any claims for pension from Government, it was ruled that they are not entitled to pension from the Imperial Revenue, and if the Local Government propose that such persons should be pensioned out of Local Funds, the Government would be prepared to take the matter into consideration.

In April 1863 a portion of the charge for the Punjab Secretariat, equal to the pay of the Assistant Secretary and Office Establishment employed in the Local Fund Branch of the Secretariat, was made payable from funds chargeable to Local Funds. The Establishment having been previously charged to Imperial Revenue and eligible to pension, it was urged that they should not lose their title to pension, and it was explained that there was no intention to keep the Establishment permanently distinct from that for imperial public works, eventually there would be one Establishment paid partly from different sources. The recommendation was allowed.

House Accommodation at Mofussil Stations.

From H. L. DAMPIER, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department,—(No. 1985, dated Fort William, the 6th April 1868.)

I AM directed to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter No. 1782, dated the 10th instant, from the Inspector-General of Police, with its enclosure, regarding an application from Mr. R. W. King, District Superintendent of Police, Lohardugga, for an advance of Rupees 4,200, to be paid by instalments in two years, to enable him to build a house for himself at Ranchee.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor avails himself of the opportunity to bring the question of house accommodation, for Government Officers at Civil Stations in the Lower Provinces, prominently before the notice of the Government of India. The marked insufficiency of houses at present as compared with former times, at many, if not most, Stations, has been the source of serious inconvenience to the European Officers in all branches of the public service. In every District there has been a considerable increase of late years in the strength of both the Covenanted and Uncovenanted servants of Government. The introduction of the new constabulary for instance has caused an addition to the number of European Police Officers resident at Mofussil Stations. The number of Assistant Magistrates and of European Officers in the Subordinate Executive Service has also considerably increased of late. The Education Department and the Public Works Department have both added to the population for which house accommodation is required; while at Stations on the lines of Railway, many of the houses which were formerly available for Officers joining the Station, have become permanently occupied by the servants of the Railway Company to the exclusion of all others. The experience of the last few years has shown that native capitalists finding safer and more profitable investments than house property, have made no effort to meet the demand for dwellings which undoubtedly exists, and the consequence has been that the action of Government has frequently of late been hampered and the public interests injured by the impossibility of compelling married Officers to proceed to Stations at which it was notorious that no house was available for their accommodation. At the station of Jessore, for instance, there are at present only four available houses, exclusive of the Circuit House and the Parsonage, while there are nine Officers, six of whom are married men, who require accommodation. The Lieutenant-Governor would strongly urge on the Government of India the necessity of extending to the Lower Provinces of Bengal the orders passed in the Financial Department, No. 3115, dated 20th December last, under which allowances for the purpose of building houses may be made to Officers in the Assigned Hyderabad Districts. The Local Government would exercise its discretion in restricting such loans to cases in which they might be really necessary.

3. As regards the case which is the immediate subject of the present reference, Mr. King states that there is no house accommodation at Ranchee for the District Superintendent of Police, and that had not the Deputy Commissioner kindly given up to him part of his house, he (Mr. King) would have been compelled to live in tents during the hot season and rains.

4. Under these circumstances the Lieutenant-Governor would wish to make an advance to Mr. King under the orders referred to.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 2606, dated Fort William, the 30th April 1868.)

IN reply to your letter No. 1985, dated the 6th April 1868, I am desired to inform you that, on the representation of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor, the Governor General in Council has sanctioned the extension to the Lower Provinces of Bengal of the orders passed in Financial Notification No. 3115, dated 20th December last, regarding the payment and adjustment advances to Officers in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, for the purpose of building small substantial houses of residence for themselves.

2. The advance proposed to be given to Mr. R. W. King, District Superintendent of Police, Lohardugga, should be regulated according to the terms of the Notification above-mentioned.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 15th to 21st May 1868.

MONTH.	Date	Reduced Reading of Barometer at 10 A. M.	THERMOMETER.		Daily Range of the Temperature.	Mean Temperature for the day.	Mean Wet Bulb.	Computed Mean Dew-point.	Mean Degree of humidity for the day.	Prevailing Direction of Wind during the day.	Rain.	Max. Pressure of Wind.		Daily Velocity of Wind.	GENERAL REMARKS.
			Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.								Max. Pressure of Wind.	Daily Velocity of Wind.		
		Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	°			Inches.	lb	Miles.		
May	15th	29.590	91.2	78.0	13.2	83.6	78.8	75.1	0.78	S S E & S	...	2.6	117.4		Clear and scattered cumuli, brisk wind between 4½ and 5½ P. M.
	16th	29.58	92.4	79.0	13.4	83.1	78.1	74.8	.78	S by E & S S E	0.06	2.1	267.0		Clear and scattered cumuli, brisk wind from 8½ to 4½ P. M., thunder at 4 and 5 P. M., lightning at 5 and 8 P. M., light rain at 5 P. M.
	17th	29.99	90.2	78.2	14.0	82.1	77.8	74.8	.70	S S E & S W	0.07	10.0	116.5		Scattered cumuli and overcast. Strong wind from 8½ to 6½ P. M., brisk wind from 8 to 8½ P. M., thunder at 7 and 8 P. M., lightning at 7, 8 and 10 P. M., light rain at 1½ and 8 P. M.
	18th	29.98	91.5	75.0	16.5	82.7	77.1	73.2	.74	S W & S	...	0.5	119.7		Scattered cirro and cumuli, lightning to N from 8 to 11 P. M.
	19th	29.60	91.5	75.0	16.5	82.1	77.0	73.4	.70	S S E & S S W	1.06	3.1	167.4		Scattered cumuli and overcast, brisk wind from 1 to 7½ P. M., thunder at 1 A. M. 3½, 6 and 7 P. M., lightning at 1 A. M. and from 7 to 11 P. M., rain at 1, 10½ A. M. 6, 7½ and 11 P. M.
	20th	29.08	89.0	75.0	14.0	81.9	77.3	74.1	.78	S & S S E	0.04	4.0	232.1		Scattered cirri and cumuli. Strong wind between midnight and 1 A. M., lightning from midnight to 2 A. M. and at 11 P. M., light rain at midnight.
	21st	29.28	91.5	77.5	14.0	83.7	78.1	74.2	.74	S S E & S	...	...	124.5		Scattered cumuli and clear, thunder at 4 P. M., slight rain between 4 and 5 P. M.

The mean Temperature and the mean Wet Bulb are derived from the twenty-four hourly Observations made during the day.

The Dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants. The figures in column ten represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity. The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1 foot 2 inches, and that of the Anemometer 70 feet 10 inches, above the level of the ground. The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's Anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of Temperature during the past seven days			...	...	17.4
The Max. Temperature during the past seven days			...	...	92.4
The Max. Temperature during the corresponding period of the past year			...	...	101.0
The mean humidity during the past seven days			...	...	0.78
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year			...	...	0.68
					Inches.
The total fall of rain from 15th to 21st ...			{ by lower rain gauge	...	1.23
			{ by Anemometer gauge	...	1.07
Ditto ditto from 15th to 21st, average of fourteen previous years			...	...	0.93
Ditto ditto between the 1st January and the 21st current			...	...	10.85
Ditto ditto during the corresponding period of the past year			...	...	4.13

The 23rd May 1868.

GOPSENAUTH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

Meteorological Report up to 14th May 1866.

STATION.	May.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
			Inches.	°	°				Inches.	
CALCUTTA.	8th	10	29.771	80	88	78	S	...	...	Scattered cumuli.
	16	16	29.628	82	84	70	S	...	...	Cumuli.
	9th	16	29.859	82	78	82	E	...	1.58	Cumuli to N. E.
	16	16	29.862	74	70	81	N W	...	0.76	Overcast, thunder & drizzling.
	10th	10	29.832	85	78	71	S S E	...	0.18	Cirrocumuli.
	16	16	29.678	89	82	78	S by W	...	...	Cumuli round the horizon.
	11th	10	29.768	88	81	79	S S W	...	...	Scattered cumuli and scuds from S.
	16	16	29.692	88	81	72	E N E	...	...	Overcast.
	12th	10	29.817	82	77	79	E by S	...	1.20	Scattered cirri & cirrostrati.
	16	16	29.736	89	79	85	S by W	...	...	Scattered cirrostrati.
	13th	10	29.642	88	82	83	S by E	...	...	Scattered cumuli, low scuds from S.
	16	16	29.734	91	82	66	S S W	...	...	Cumuli to E horizon.
	14th	10	29.848	79	76	66	S S E	...	0.03	Scud.
	16	16	29.763	89	81	68	S by W	...	...	Scattered cumuli.
MADRAS ISLAND.	8th	9-30	29.683	89	84	80	S	Strong	...	Scattered clouds.
	16	16	29.571	89	84	80	S	Strong	...	Cloudy.
	9th	9-30	29.782	85	80	79	E	Light	...	Scattered clouds.
	16	16	29.771	73	70	86	N	Violent	...	Sky overcast with clouds, drizzling rain.
	10th	9-30	29.721	85	80	78	S	Moderate	...	Scattered clouds, smart fall of rain at 17 hours yesterday.
	16	16	29.624	87	83	88	S	Moderate	...	Scattered clouds.
	11th	9-30	29.688	86	82	83	S	Strong	...	Cloudy.
	16	16	29.593	88	83	80	S	Strong	...	Ditto.
	12th	9-30	29.710	82	77	78	S E	Moderate	...	Ditto. Raining heavily since 21 hours yesterday.
	16	16	29.558	87	79	68	S	Moderate	...	Cloudy.
	13th	9-30	29.748	87	82	79	S	Moderate	...	Ditto.
	16	16	29.863	88	84	10	S	Moderate	...	Ditto.
	14th	9-30	29.801	78	73	100	S E	Moderate	...	Ditto. Desultory falls of rain since morning.
	16	16	29.598	87	78	66	S E	Moderate	...	Cloudy.
CHITTAGONG.	8th	9-30	29.730	79	74	77	S by E	Light	1.07	Cirrocumuli towards N.
	16	16	29.658	84	81	87	N	Light	...	Overcast, distant thunder towards N. W., heavy gale & rain from N. W. commenced at about 17 hour.
	9th	9-30	29.783	81	76	78	S E	Light	2.35	Cirrocumuli, a storm from N. W. & heavy rain commenced at about 2 A. M., during the storm, the Bar. fell 20.764.
	16	16	29.658	83	76	78	S W	Light	...	Cloudy horizon.
	10th	9-30	29.731	84	79	79	S by W	Light	...	Cumuli.
	16	16	29.659	86	80	69	S by E	Light	...	Scattered cumuli.
	11th	9-30	29.723	79	75	89	S	Light	1.32	Clear. Heavy rain and strong wind from N. W. at 21 hour yesterday.
	16	16	29.648	79	76	80	N W	Fresh	...	Cirrocumuli moving towards S. E.
	12th	9-30	29.717	80	76	82	S	Light	0.60	Cirrocumuli, cumuli round horizon.
	16	16	29.675	88	78	78	Calm	...	...	Cirrocumuli.
	13th	9-30	29.779	84	80	88	S	Light	...	Ditto.
	16	16	29.679	83	78	79	E S E	Light	...	Heavy towards S & W., strong wind from N. W. at 13 A. M. lasted 10 minutes blowing over heavy rain clouds.
	14th	9-30	29.777	79	75	82	E by N	Light	1.92	Cloudy sky, cumuli towards S. E. and S. E., slight but heavy shower at 19 h yesterday followed by drizzle, and at 22.30 h gale from N. W. accompanied by heavy rain & severe lightning, lasted half an hour, showers at intervals till morning.
	16	16	29.659	83	78	71	S	Light	...	Cirrocumuli.
AYR.	8th	9-30	29.818	86	80	75	S W	Light	0.47	Fine.
	16	16	29.793	86	81	73	S W	Light	...	Slight shower last night.
	9th	9-30	29.900	81	75	74	N E	Light	0.37	Fine.
	16	16	29.791	88	79	65	S by W	Light	...	Fine.
	10th	9-30	29.854	87	78	83	S	Light	...	Cirri to cumuli to the N. & cirri to strati from N. E. S. E.
	16	16	29.791	88	80	89	W	Light	...	Cirri to strati.
	11th	9-30	29.832	84	78	87	E	Light	0.30	Scattered cirro.
	16	16	29.784	87	77	81	S W	Light	...	Fine.
	12th	9-30	29.834	83	78	78	E	Light	0.41	Heavy shower from the W. 9-30 A. M.
	16	16	29.804	87	82	79	S	Light	...	Cirrocumuli.
	13th	9-30	29.946	86	81	79	S W	Light	...	Cirroni to the N.
AYR.	16	16	29.821	88	81	73	W	Light	...	Fine.
	14th	9-30	29.874	83	78	78	N E	Light	...	Thunder and lightning & rain, not remarkable.
	16	16	29.614	87	79	68	W	Light	...	Fine.

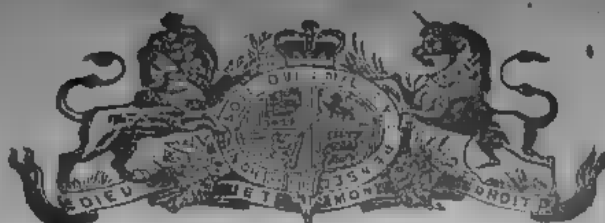
STATIONS.	May.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
CUTAGE.	8th	9-30 18	29.789 29.812	84 85	83 74	81 83	S by W S W	Light Moderate	...	Scattered cirrostrati & hazy. N. W. with few drops of rain at 6 hours, cumulostrati, nimbi and overcast, cumulostrati, strati, sultry & misty horizon.
	9th	9-30 18	29.880 29.798	81 86	83 77	80 88	S by E S	Moderate Light	...	Violent east-storm with thunder at 12-20 lasted 25 minutes, slight rain and thunder from 14-45 to 18-40, overcast since 12 hours, distant thunder in S. W. with threatening appearance covered with strati, a few drops of rain at 17-30, a violent storm from N. accompanied with thunder, lightning and good shower of rain at 18-5 lasted 1 1/2 hours.
	10th	9-30 18	29.848 29.715	87 90	81 81	78 66	S S by W	Moderate Moderate	0.4	Cirrostrati, strati, and overcast, cirri and cumuli with threatening appearance to S. S. W.
	11th	9-30 18	29.818 29.672	87 81	81 81	78 63	S S	Moderate Fresh	...	Cirri and strati since morning, unsteady wind.
	12th	9-30 18	29.816 29.759	87 87	81 79	76 68	E by S S E	Light Moderate	...	Cirri and misty horizon, very unsteady wind covering from S. S. W. to S. E. and strong wind since 18 hours.
	13th	9-30 18	29.809 29.760	88 88	78 81	69 87	S S by E	Light Moderate	...	Covered with strati, drizzled early this morning.
	14th	9-30 18	29.856 29.794	91 88	81 77	68 75	S by E E S E	Light Light	...	Distant thunder in S. E. at 18-45 nimbi strati, thunder and lightning.
	8th	10 18	29.842 29.723	88 90	80 83	57 69	S S E S E	10° 14°	...	Cirrostrati to S. S. W. and N. N. W. horizon and hazy.
	9th	10 18	29.865 29.728	90 88	83 80	69 69	S S E	9° 15°	...	Cirri and cirrostrati to N. N. W. horizon.
	10th	10 18	29.830 29.665	88 93	80 80	69 51	S W S E by S	11° 15°	...	Scattered cirrostrati, hazy and calm.
	11th	10 18	29.795 29.688	97 90	80 82	45 69	S S W S E by S	9° 15°	...	Violent E. gale at 16-5 accompanied with very severe lightning, thunder, heavy rain and hail lasted 40 minutes, nimbi and cumuli with changing appearance to S. E.
	12th	10 18	29.785 29.688	86 86	83 83	53 73	S by E S E by S	17° 23°	...	Fine.
	13th	10 18	29.863 29.735	93 89	83 81	63 69	S S E S E by S	18° 16°	...	Fine with light clouds.
	14th	10 18	29.828 29.749	91 88	82 82	66 73	S E by S S	14° 9°	...	Cloudy.
	8th	9-30 18	29.770 29.673	81 80	76 75	79 79	E E S E	Fresh Fresh	0.1	Ditto.
	9th	9-30 18	29.842 29.705	80 88	76 77	79 75	E N E E S E	Light Light	...	Very cloudy. Heavy gale at 13-45.
	10th	9-30 18	29.788 29.610	89 83	76 80	82 79	S S W W S W	Moderate Moderate	...	Partially cloudy.
	11th	9-30 18	29.763	75	74	90	E	Light	...	Ditto.
MADRID.	12th	18 9-30	29.651 29.735	77 79	73 75	81 82	S S E N N E	Fresh Light	16	Partially cloudy.
	13th	18 9-30	29.678 29.798	82 78	77 76	78 90	W E N E	...	...	Calm.
	14th	18 9-30	29.668 29.693	82 82	80 79	91 87	S E S	Moderate Light	...	Very cloudy.
	8th	9-30 18	29.270 29.218	58 61	55 63	98 68	S E W	Light Moderate	...	Threatening.
	9th	9-30	29.340	58	59	79	W	Light	0.30	Partially cloudy.
	10th	9-30	29.237 29.259	59 60	55 60	76 100	W N	Light Light	0.1 0.22	Sky overcast, thunder lightning and drizzling, heavy thunder storm from 17-38 to 20 h. yesterday.
	11th	18 9-30	29.190 29.250	87 84	65 63	62 93	W N W	Light Light	0.05	Ditto.
	12th	18	29.160	89	66	81	W by N	Light	...	Cloudy towards the north.
	13th	18	29.218	81	63	68	W	Light	...	Misty.
	14th	18	29.237	89	65	76	W	Light	0.1	Cumuli round horizon and a few thin clouds.
	15th	18	29.250	84	63	93	N W	Light	0.22	Drizzling and misty, disagreeable morning.
	16th	18	29.160	89	66	81	W by N	Light	...	Drizzle mist and drizzling morning.
TACCA.	8th	9-30 18	29.770 29.673	81 80	76 75	79 79	E E S E	Fresh Fresh	0.1	Ditto.
	9th	9-30 18	29.842 29.705	80 88	76 77	79 75	E N E E S E	Light Light	...	Very cloudy. Heavy gale at 13-45.
	10th	9-30 18	29.788 29.610	89 83	76 80	82 79	S S W W S W	Moderate Moderate	...	Partially cloudy.
	11th	9-30 18	29.763	75	74	90	E	Light	...	Ditto.
	12th	18 9-30	29.651 29.735	77 79	73 75	81 82	S S E N N E	Fresh Light	16	Partially cloudy.
	13th	18 9-30	29.678 29.798	82 78	77 76	78 90	W E N E	...	...	Calm.
	14th	18 9-30	29.668 29.693	82 82	80 79	91 87	S E S	Moderate Light	...	Very cloudy.
	8th	9-30 18	29.270 29.218	58 61	55 63	98 68	S E W	Light Moderate	...	Threatening.
	9th	9-30	29.340	58	59	79	W	Light	0.30	Partially cloudy.
	10th	9-30	29.237 29.259	59 60	55 60	76 100	W N	Light Light	0.1 0.22	Sky overcast, thunder lightning and drizzling, heavy thunder storm from 17-38 to 20 h. yesterday.
	11th	18 9-30	29.190 29.250	87 84	65 63	62 93	W N W	Light Light	0.05	Ditto.
	12th	18	29.160	89	66	81	W by N	Light	...	Cloudy towards the north.

STATION.	Day.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
DARJEELING. (Contd.)	12th	9-30	23.281	56	53	80	S W	Light	0.2	Rather misty.
		16	23.205	53	54	81	W	Moderate	...	Cumuli round horizon, heavy to S. W. rest clear.
	13th	9-30	23.273	59	51	81	S E	Light	0.19	Clear, most delightful morning.
		16	23.241	55	53	74	S	...	...	Overcast with night, heavy shower of rain, half an hour ago, severe thunder & lightning.
	14th	9-30	23.293	58	53	80	E	Light	0.05	Rather misty.
		16	23.263	55	56	73	W	Moderate	...	Cumuli round horizon and a few thin clouds.
	8th	10	22.538	94	71	29	N E	Light	...	Strat.
		16	22.449	102	74	29	N E	Light	...	Ditto.
	9th	10	22.583	95	73	31	E	Very strong	...	Ditto.
		16	22.462	99	74	27	E	Moderate	...	Ditto.
	10th	10	22.621	91	76	47	N E	Strong	...	Cumuli, cumulostrati.
		16	22.423	100	79	30	N E	Light	...	Strat.
	11th	10	22.455	94	76	40	E	Strong	...	Ditto.
		16	22.339	103	77	27	N E	...	...	Ditto.
ROCKBURY.	12th	10	22.129	84	78	46	N	Light	...	Ditto.
		16	22.478	100	79	29	N	...	...	...
	13th	10	22.546	95	73	28	Calm	...	...	...
		16	22.491	101	71	29	W	Light.	...	...
	14th	10	22.670	99	80	41	N E	...	...	...
		16	22.488	103	74	25	N	...	...	...
	8th	9-30	22.697	97	68	21	S E	...	...	...
		16	22.761	101	67	15	Calm	...	...	...
	9th	9-30	22.858	94	67	23	Calm	...	...	...
		16	22.761	101	67	15	N W	...	...	...
	10th	9-30	22.826	89	70	35	S E	...	...	...
		16	22.779	94	70	25	S E	...	...	...
	11th	9-30	22.776	91	73	35	S W	...	...	...
		16	22.726	95	68	19	Calm	...	...	...
MOOREN.	12th	9-30	22.880	83	68	23	S	...	...	...
		16	22.844	98	70	23	Calm	...	...	...
	13th	9-30	22.836	91	67	23	S	...	...	...
		16	22.867	100	69	14	W	...	...	...
	14th	9-30	22.875	91	67	24	S	...	...	...
		16	22.807	104	67	6	Calm	...	...	...
	8th	10	22.933	88	75	57	...	...	...	...
		16	22.493	92	76	45	...	...	...	...
	9th	10	22.758	80	67	47	...	...	...	...
		16	22.677	87	71	43	...	...	...	...
	10th	10	22.616	87	71	42	...	...	...	...
		16	22.515	88	73	40	...	...	...	...
	11th	10	22.620	80	71	33	...	...	...	...
		16	22.459	98	75	30	...	...	...	...
PATNA.	12th	10	22.687	83	75	61	...	...	0.23	...
		16	22.764	92	76	61	...	...	...	...
	13th	10	22.764	92	76	61	...	...	0.40	...
		16	22.777	89	76	61	...	...	...	Heavy rain during night.
	14th	10	22.630	86	72	27	...	...	...	...
		16	22.680	84	77	43	...	...	...	...
	8th	10	22.684	92	74	45	E	...	...	...
		16	22.672	89	74	44	N E	...	...	...
	9th	9-30	22.471	94	75	38	N E	...	0.01	...
		16	22.641	75	67	41	N E	...	...	Thunder shower at 7-30 a.m.
	10th	9-30	22.579	87	71	42	N E	...	0.02	...
		16	22.521	84	73	50	N E	...	...	Smart storm last night at 11.
	11th	9-30	22.498	92	75	42	N E	...	...	...
		16	22.504	81	71	59	N E	...	...	...
FAIR PLAY.	12th	9-30	22.391	91	76	43	N E	...	...	...
		16	22.553	89	74	52	N E	...	...	...
	13th	9-30	22.614	91	77	43	N E	...	...	...
		16	22.500	89	77	52	N E	...	...	...
	14th	9-30	22.505	101	86	58	N W	...	...	...
		16	22.506	89	77	58	N E	...	...	...
	3rd	9-30	22.634	87	81	56	N E	...	...	...
		16	22.511	87	84	87	N E	...	...	...
	4th	9-30	22.721	87	83	83	S W	...	...	...
		16	22.713	87	83	83	S W	...	...	...
	5th	9-30	22.714	87	83	83	S W	...	...	...
		16	22.611	87	83	83	S W	...	...	...
	6th	9-30	22.714	87	83	83	S W	...	...	...
		16	22.665	87	83	83	S W	...	...	...
FAIR PLAY.	7th	9-30	22.037	80	83	83	S W	...	...	...
		16	22.545	87	83	83	S W	...	...	...
	8th	9-30	22.673	88	83	83	S W	...	...	...
		16	22.652	88	84	83	S W	...	...	...
	9th	9-30	22.789	85	83	87	S E	...	...	...
			16	23.024	87	83	83	S E	...	...

STATION.	Day.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. = 100.	WIND.		Rains.	WEATHER.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.		
HABERSTADT.			Inches.	☉	☉					
	1st	9-30	27.801	84	68	12	N W	...	...
		3-30	27.714	101	68	14	N W	...	...
	2nd	9-30	27.859	91	70	91	N	...	...
		3-30	27.791	97	68	18	W	...	...
	3rd	9-30	27.889	89	67	26	N	...	...
		3-30	27.808	97	69	7	N W	...	...
	4th	9-30	27.896	91	67	23	N	...	...
		3-30	27.807	98	70	24	N	...	...
	5th	9-30	27.859	93	67	21	N	...	...
		3-30	27.757	97	65	10	N W	...	...
	6th	9-30	27.761	93	67	21	SW	...	...
		3-30	27.683	98	65	15	W	...	...
	7th	9-30	27.689	91	63	18	S	...	...
		3-30	27.824	101	66	14	W	...	...
	8th	9-30	27.754	89	67	26	S E	...	...
		3-30	27.989	96	70	23	N W	...	...
	9th	9-30	27.889	77	68	60	N	...	...
		3-30	27.731	86	73	61	E	...	...
	10th	9-30	27.769	82	73	63	S	...	...
		3-30	27.079	95	70	24	N W	...	...
	11th	9-30	27.729	82	74	66	E	...	...
		3-30	27.629	93	76	43	E	...	0.4	
	12th	9-30	27.754	79	73	73	N E	...	...
		3-30	27.716	93	74	63	E	...	...
	13th	9-30	27.821	81	76	74	N E	...	...
		3-30	27.736	90	70	32	N W	...	...
	14th	9-30	27.816	81	71	69	E	...	...
		3-30	27.754	93	71	29	N W	...	...

BENGAL SECRETARIAT,
The 22nd May 1868.

HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to Govt. of Bengal.



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 1868.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, 23rd May 1868.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *Presiding.*

T. H. COWIE, Esq., *Advocate-General.*

H. L. DAMPIER, Esq.,

E. T. TREVOR, Esq.,

A. R. THOMPSON, Esq.,

S. S. HOGG, Esq.,

KOMAR HARENDRA KRISHNA, RAI BANADOUR.

BABOO RAMANATH TAGORE.

H. KNOWLES, Esq.,

BABOO PEARY CHAND MITTRA.

T. ALCOCK, Esq.,

H. H. SUTHERLAND, Esq.,

KOMAR SATYANUND GHORAL.

POLICE AND CONSERVANCY OF TOWNS.

THE PRESIDENT intimated that the further consideration of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill "to amend and consolidate the law for the regulation of Police in Towns under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and for the Conservancy and Improvement thereof," would be first proceeded with.

MR. DAMPIER moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the above Bill be further considered in order to the settlement of the Clauses of the Bill.

The motion was agreed to.

THE PRESIDENT having declared that Section 12 would be first considered—

MR. THOMPSON moved that Clauses 1, 2, 4, and 5 of this Section be left out. He said that as there was a formidable array of amendments standing in his name, it would be necessary for him to enter into a brief explanation of their purport and object. The Bill as brought in proposed to enact that in some of the places to which the Act extended, there should be Town Committees, whose duties should be of a very large and comprehensive character. In the discussions in Committee upon the subject, he took exception to the proposed arrangements as too cumbersome and unsuited to any places of the kind to which the Bill

would be extended; and when over-ruled in the Select Committee, he had reserved to himself the right of bringing up before the Council the subject-matter of those Sections regarding which he had given notices of amendment. The single object of all these amendments was to provide a simple machinery for giving effect to the measure, and the duties of the Town Committees would then be limited to the making only of the assessments and collections for the objects of the Bill. The Council would observe that whatever discussions took place on the Section now before the Council would suffice for all the other Sections regarding which notice had been given. If the present amendment was accepted, the discussions on it would apply to all the other Sections. If rejected, the other amendments would, with the permission of the Council, be withdrawn.

His objections to the provisions of the Bill which imposed those larger duties and higher powers were founded on the fact that the places to which the Bill would apply were not likely to be of a kind to justify the cumbersome details and procedure provided in the Bill. The Council were aware that we already had a law, passed only a few years ago, and still an experiment, which provided fully for all the aspirations to local self-government which any place in the Lower Pro-

places could desire. That measure became law after a careful and full consideration; and he believed that it was within the competency of the Government to apply and extend its provisions to whatever places it might think fit; and it appeared accordingly that that law had been extended and applied to a very large number of places, and certainly he believed to all places which in any sense of the word deserved the name of a Town. Every place which, from its position or population, from its connection with railways and rivers, or from its trade, was capable of having a Municipality, enjoyed one under that law, or might have it on representing its need to the local Government. What remained then, he would ask, in the way of Towns which made legislation necessary in the form which this Bill took? The hon'ble mover of the Bill had observed that it was intended for places or towns not sufficiently advanced for the introduction of the District Municipal Improvement Act; but as the British India Association had remarked,—

“The provisions contained in this Bill do not materially differ from those of last-mentioned Act, except in respect of the rate and mode of taxation, and the powers of the Committees. It may therefore not improperly be called a Union Municipality Bill.”

He (Mr. THOMPSON) would request the Council to examine the duties required of Town Committees, and then, taking into consideration the character of the villages (for they were really nothing more) to which it would alone be applicable, to say whether the scheme was not cumbersome, and whether the machinery was not too complicated. We were to have Town Committees and Ward Committees, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen. We were to have Sketch Estimates, and Budgets, and Reports, and Returns, and Revisions, which would be good enough if we were legislating for the finances of the empire, but quite inapplicable to the circumstances and requirements of the villages to which this Bill would apply.

Another point was, what would be the amount of funds available for improvements after paying for the Police. There were no very reliable statistics on this point; but we had had some discussions in Committee; and in the absence of positive information we could only arrive at an approximate estimate. We assumed that by taking 1,000 houses as the highest number, and supposing that the maximum assessment, which it was optional to adopt or not, was applied in all the places to which the Act would extend, we should realise an amount of about Rupees 60 a month, and this for purposes of conservancy, roads, vaccination, dispensaries, and hospitals. If that was in any way a fair calculation, he asked whether the objects which would be attained at all justified the means proposed to secure them, and whether it would not be wiser and more practical to legislate exclusive for purposes of conservancy, and leave to the executive authorities alone the distribution of those small funds which would be available for the Municipal purposes after the payment of the Police. He believed we would thereby get better road and better conservancy.

He would also plead in behalf of the Magistrates. It was no exaggeration to say that they were now over-burdened with labour. They had to look to the Judge of the District, and the Commissioner of the Division; they were also subordinate to the Board of Revenue and the

High Court. They had to supervise the work of the Sub-divisions, and had besides their own Sadder duties. They had to carry out the provisions of Act III of 1864, and manage and control the Committees appointed under that Act. And we proposed now to impose upon them the most difficult of all duties, namely, the bringing into harmony the views and wishes of people living at distances, who would be, he believed, a most impracticable and unmanageable body. He (Mr. Thompson) had therefore not hesitated to speak of this Bill as the most remarkable recent instance of over-legislation. Since the year 1863 there had been about six or seven Acts passed in connection with Municipalities. Some referring to Calcutta were no doubt proper; others relating to districts, where also the plan was feasible; but they were altogether impracticable and unsuitable in the petty places to which it was proposed to extend this measure. It would be much wiser, in his opinion, to legislate in the sense that a broad line should be drawn between places fit for local self-government and those which were not. That places fit for Municipalities should be brought under the operation of Act III of 1864, and all places not so fit should be left to the direct executive supervision of the Magistrates of Districts controlled by their official superiors.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said, he had a very few words to say on the proposed amendment, which, as had been truly said by the hon'ble member, seemed to involve in it the principle of all the other amendments of which he had given notice, so that if this amendment was rejected, it would probably be unnecessary for any of the other amendments to be considered. He (the Advocate-General) confessed that he went thus far with the hon'ble member that he thought that the duties of the proposed Town Committees, as defined in this Section, as well as the duty of the Magistrate in consultation with the proposed Town Committees, as defined in the 16th Section, were not at present expressed or limited in such a way as would render it, to his (the Advocate-General's) mind at any rate, sufficiently plain as to what were to be the powers of the Committee, and what, in the absence of any investment of the Committee by the Executive Government, were to be the extent of the powers of the Magistrate independent of the Committee. That perhaps was rather more a matter of detail, and of the altering of the wording of the Section, than matter involving the general principle, which was all that the hon'ble member had addressed himself to. With regard to that, the position in which he (the Advocate-General) felt himself was this. He understood the general object of the amendments, notice of which had been placed on the Paper, to be that the duties of Committees should be confined exclusively to those of assessment; that they should have nothing to do with the preparation of estimates; nothing to do with arrangements and establishments, or with the determination of the works which were to be undertaken, or the measures to be adopted for the conservancy or improvement of the Town; nothing to do with the application of any part of the Local Fund. And he must say that if he thought it right to act only on his own view in a matter in which his information was so very imperfect, he should have thought that no middle line could be drawn between towns or villages which were

spt for the introduction of the District Municipal Improvement Act in its integrity, and those which were practically unsuited for the adoption of any Municipal system whatever. But he understood that it was considered by those far better qualified than he could be to form an opinion on the subject,—which after all was a subject any conclusion on which must be based on facts and practical experience, that there were at present (and there might be more instances hereafter) places which, although the circumstances might not be such as to warrant the application in them of Act III of 1864 in its entirety, might yet warrant, and might yet require, the application of a middle system (if he might use the expression) in the sense of measures taken for the conservancy and improvement of such places, and which should not be left to the absolute discretion of the Executive Authorities, but that those who might be supposed to represent in such places the most advanced intelligence of the community should at any rate have some voice in the adoption of the measures which it was proposed to carry out. That being so, he felt it his duty to oppose the amendment; reserving any objection he might have, and which he might think it advisable to advance in point of clearness, and otherwise with regard to the form of this Section 42 and the other cognate Sections, and treating the proposed amendment, as he understood the hon'ble member wished it to be understood, as aimed against the general principle on which the Bill was framed, so far as Town Committees were concerned. He should oppose the amendment, because, under the circumstances he had stated, it was proposed that the Council should afford the Executive Government an opportunity of trying this medium measure, and not leaving them to choose between no Municipal system at all, and the fully developed system of 1864.

BABOO PEARY CHAND MITTRA said, he would also oppose the motion. One great object of the hon'ble mover of the Bill was, that if the Bill were passed, the people would get accustomed to aid in local self-government, and would be taught to take a part in the administration of their Municipal affairs. But if the present amendment was carried, that object would no doubt be frustrated. The only question was whether there were materials enough in most of the places in which the Bill would be introduced, to warrant the Council in giving such powers to the Town Committee. From what he (Baboo Peary Chand Mittra) knew of the people in the Mofussil, he thought there were. We knew that the working of the Panchayet was satisfactory in every place in which it had been tried, even in matters concerning their own affairs. If any dispute arose, the people referred it to a Panchayet, and the dispute was speedily settled. The people from time immemorial had been taught to refer their disputes for disposal to Panchayets, and he had not the least hesitation in saying that the Panchayets were quite capable of assisting the Magistrate in the matters referred to in this Section. On those grounds, and with a view to raise the status of the people generally, giving them an advance position, and educating them in self-government, he would decidedly oppose the amendment.

MR. DAMPIER said, the amendment about to be put to the motion of the hon'ble member reports (Mr. Thompson) must stand on one of the hypotheses. Either it was that the Go-

vernment was not bound to allow, as far as might be practicable, and indeed to do what it could to induce, rate-payers in places into which local Municipal taxation was introduced, to take part and interest in the management of their own local affairs; or else the position must be that there was not, throughout the whole of the Lower Provinces of Bengal, any town of which the most respectable rate-payers were fit to take any part or interest whatever in their own local government, or even fit to give advice to a Magistrate who should have the despotic power of over-ruling all their suggestions, unless they were fit to be entrusted with the entire management of the affairs of their town under the District Municipal Improvement Act. It seemed to him (Mr. Dampier) that either position was untenable altogether. The hon'ble gentleman who moved the amendment had altogether passed over the consideration which the last speaker had brought to notice, that no doubt the Government was bound, as far as it could, to lead the people on towards local self-government. All that the Government asked in the Bill was to have power to do so gradually, and as it might think to be proper. In its simplest form, that was to say, if the Government did not issue any special order under Section 46, if it only issued the simple order that the Act should be extended to such and such a town, the procedure would be simple enough to satisfy the hon'ble member opposite (Mr. Thompson). The Magistrate, with the sanction of the Commissioner, was to nominate the members of the Town Committee, as he now did under the Chowkeydarce Act, and then he would simply consult the members of the Town Committee, over-ruling them in every point on which it seemed good to his judgment to do so. That was the simplest form of the Bill, and the one which would always prevail if no special orders were passed.

It had been said that this Bill would only apply to villages, and the hon'ble member had spoken of 1,000 houses as the maximum. The Suburban Unions of Calcutta however, which paid last year between Rupees 70,000 and 80,000—that tract lying just outside the twenty-seven square miles in which the District Municipal Act was in force—must represent about 40,000 or 50,000 houses. Again, in the Town of Moorsshedabad, the old Chowkeydarce Act was still in force; it was an enormous Town. It appeared that the question of introducing the District Municipal Act into that Town had once been fully discussed, and the Government came to the conclusion that it was not desirable to do so. Now, if the Government should still hold that Act III of 1864 should not be introduced in Moorsshedabad, surely it was time that the Magistrate should have some assistance from the many respectable inhabitants in that Town. He (Mr. Dampier) named Moorsshedabad as the extreme case in which the Government might make use of the people in the management of their own affairs.

It seemed to him that the position which the hon'ble member had taken up was a peculiar one. The Local Government was pressed to extend municipal taxation and local improvements of every kind, and the Government was willing to avail itself of the assistance and advice which could be given in certain places by the respectable rate-payers of Towns in carrying out those proposed local arrangements. He (Mr. Dampier)

had also stated that the city of Moorshedabad was not fit for the introduction of the District Municipal Act, and there this Bill would apply. He (Mr. Thompson) did not know under what circumstance Act III of 1864 was not enforced in the Suburban Unions and the city of Moorshedabad; but if they were, as he supposed, large and wealthy places, and contained, as we knew they did, influential and intelligent inhabitants, he did not see why the larger Act should not be extended to them without the necessity of fresh legislation in the form of this measure.

The motion to omit Clauses 1, 2, 4, and 5 was negatived.

Section 42 was then passed with two verbal amendments.

Sections 23, 24, and 25 were also passed with verbal amendments.

Section 26 was agreed to.

Section 27 having been read—

Mr. THOMPSON, with the leave of the President, withdrew all the amendments of which he had given notice.

Sections 27 and 28 were then agreed to.

Section 29 provided that there should be at least one-third of the members of the Committee present at a meeting.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL moved an amendment to the effect that there should be at least three members present at each meeting. The Act, he said, contemplated that there might be a Committee composed of five members, and one-third of five would be one. There might again be two members present, and then each would vote for himself to be appointed Chairman. He did not therefore think that the quorum should consist of less than three, and he would move accordingly.

The motion was carried, and the Section as amended passed.

Section 30 was agreed to.

Section 31 provided that every Town Committee might appoint some one of their number to be Secretary.

KOOMAR HARENDRA KRISHNA enquired if there was any objection to the Committee appointing a person not one of their number to be Secretary.

Mr. DAMPIER, having stated that he saw no objection—

KOOMAR HARENDRA KRISHNA moved an amendment to that effect which was carried, and the Section as amended agreed to.

Section 32, fixing the duration of office of a member of the Committee, was omitted, as being unnecessary, serving on Committees being no longer compulsory.

Section 33 was agreed to, with the addition of a Clause declaring that a member of a Committee might be re-appointed at any time.

Section 34 was passed with a verbal amendment.

Section 35 was agreed to.

Section 36 was passed with verbal amendments.

Section 37 was agreed to,

Sections 38 and 39 were struck out, for the same reason as the omission of Section 32.

Section 40 provided for the removal of a member on the application of the tax-payers; and Section 41 for his removal if guilty of any

offence which, according to the provisions of the Penal Code, it would be an offence to compound.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL suggested that it would be better, in preference to restricting the power of removal as proposed, to give a general power to Government. There might be causes (besides mere neglect of duties or want of capacity), such as undue interference with the Magistrate, or obstructing his colleagues, which might make it very desirable and proper to remove a member of a Committee.

BARON PEARY CHAND MITTRA said, by the District Municipal Improvement Act the Government had the absolute power of removing a Commissioner. If the power of asking for the removal of a member of the Committee was conferred on the inhabitants, they might perhaps be induced to petition against a person who, from his advanced position, or other cause, had become obnoxious to them. He thought it would answer every purpose if the power of removal was left in the hands of the Government.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said, he did not see any inconsistency between Sections 40 and 41. It might be said that, under the general power proposed to be given, the right of removal on the representation of the inhabitants would be included; but still he thought it was not undesirable to give the rate-payers an opportunity of expressing their opinion of the conduct of the members of the Committee.

KOOMAR HARENDRA KRISHNA said, that supposing the Section were amended as proposed, if a member of a Town Committee did not pull well with his colleagues, they would be able to report him to Government, and thus procure his removal. He thought that that should not be allowed, and would vote for the Sections as they stood.

Mr. DAMPIER could only say that some such considerations as those advanced had induced him to amend Section 41 as it stood. If the Council was disposed to leave the discretion absolutely to the Government, it was not for him to oppose it.

Section 40 was then agreed to, and Section 41 was amended so as to leave removal of members of the Committee entirely to the discretion of Government.

Sections 43 to 46 were agreed to.

Sections 47 and 48 were passed with verbal amendments.

Section 49 provided the nature of the tax to be levied.

Mr. HOUS said, he rose to draw the attention of the Council to the inequality of the tax, if the last three lines of the Section were allowed to stand. In distributing the tax, the Panchayet or Town Committee would not improbably be inclined to impose too high a tax on the poorer classes, and to exempt their own class, and the last three lines would favor such unequal distribution. Besides, a zemindar who was in occupation of the largest house, would not be sufficiently taxed if he was only required to pay five Rupees per month, and he would probably derive more advantage than the poorer classes from the improvements that might result from increased taxation. He therefore moved that the last three lines of the Section be omitted.

BABOO PEARY CHAND MITTRA said, he objected to the amendment, because he thought there ought to be a limit to the amount of taxation. If there was no limit laid down by the law, it might produce great uncertainty as to the amount that ought to be collected from each individual. If five Rupees was not a sufficiently high limit, he would prefer its being raised to ten Rupees, rather than that there should be no limit; and he begged to move an amendment to that effect.

MR. DAMPIER said he would support the amendment.

BABOO RAMANATH TAGORE objected to the amendment, because he thought the tax was not to be imposed on the circumstances of the people, but on their houses. Besides, it ought to be remembered that houses in the Mofussil were not so valuable as in Calcutta.

KOOMAR HARENDRA KRISHNA said, he would support the objections to the amendment which were taken by the last speaker. In Select Committee the limit of five Rupees was inserted at his (Koomar Harendra Krishna's) instance. In the original Bill, and in the existing law, the limit was the pay of a Chowkeydar of the lowest grade; but as that varied very much in different districts, he thought the limit of five Rupees was the most fair and equitable.

The Council then divided on the last amendment:—

Ayes 7.

Mr. Sutherland.
Baboo Peary Chand Mittra.
Mr. Knowles.
Mr. Thompson.
Mr. Dampier.
The Advocate-General.
The President.

Noes 6.

Koomar Satyanund Ghosal.
Mr. Alcock.
Baboo Ramanath Tagore.
Koomar Harendra Krishna.
Mr. Hogg.
Mr. Trevor.

The motion was therefore carried.

MR. HOGG said, he had another amendment to propose. The Bill, as it had passed through Committee, had been so amended as would, in many places, make it take the place of Act III of 1864. If the Bill was to take effect only in small places, he would submit that the average rate of Rupees 2-4 per annum for each house would be sufficient; but if the Act was to be extended to large towns like Moorshedabad, Rupees 2-4 per house would not at all represent the amount of local taxation which such places ought to produce. He would therefore move that Rupees 4 be substituted for Rupees 2-4.

BABOO RAMANATH TAGORE objected to the amendment. If he recollected rightly, when the hon'ble mover introduced the Bill, he explicitly stated that this Bill would operate in villages which were comparatively poor, and that therefore, in addition to the two annas per house that was now levied for Chowkeydars, a tax of one anna for conservancy would be sufficient. On that statement the Council agreed to the principle of the Bill. But if that principle was to be over-riden, and an additional tax imposed, it would do great injustice to the poor ryots in whose villages the Bill would come into operation. We should not only look to the proceeds of the tax, but to the circumstances of the people on whom the tax would be imposed. He (Baboo Ramanath Tagore) knew that the poor ryots would pay the additional one anna with great

difficulty, and any further tax they would consider a great evil and misfortune. He therefore thought that the limit of Rupees 2-4 provided in the Bill should be retained.

BABOO PEARY CHAND MITTRA said, he was of opinion that there should be no addition to this tax. Ten rupees per month had been fixed as the maximum assessment on rich men having extensive property; but the limit now under consideration was as high as the poor classes could afford.

MR. DAMPIER said, it did not seem to him right at this stage of the Bill, having started by saying that the Bill was required to raise a little more money to introduce local improvements, to raise the average. We said that as it had not been possible to provide proper measures for conservancy with the average of two annas per house, we proposed to raise it to three annas. He did not therefore think that after the Bill had gone through this stage, we ought now to agree to raise that average.

The motion was then negatived, and the further consideration of the Section postponed.

Section 50 was passed with a verbal amendment.

Sections 51 to 55 were agreed to.

Section 56 provided for the examination by the Town Committee of assessments made by Ward Committees.

MR. DAMPIER explained that the object of this Section was to give to the Town Committee final power as to individual assessments, where the assessments were made by the Ward Committees. But where there was no Ward Committee, and the Town Committee itself assessed under Section 57 the duty of revising and finally settling appeals would lie with the Magistrate of the District, as the case might be. The principle was that where a Ward Committee assessed, the Town Committee's decision would be final as to particular assessments; but where the Town Committee made the assessments, appeals would lie to the Magistrate.

The Section was then agreed to with a verbal amendment.

Sections 57 and 58 were also passed with verbal amendments.

The further consideration of the Bill was postponed.

POSSESSION OF CHURCHES AND ISLANDS.

MR. THOMPSON moved that the Report of Select Committee on the Bill "to amend provisions of Act IX of 1847 (an Act relating to the assessment of lands gained from the sea or from rivers by alluvion or dereliction within the Provinces of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa)" be further considered in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill.

The motion was put and agreed to.

KOOMAR SATYANUND GHOSAL, with the leave of the President, withdrew the amendment of which he had given notice.

MR. THOMPSON said, the principle laid down in the first four Sections of the Bill had been adopted by the Council. In the 5th Section the Select Committee had made a provision that when an island had become attached to the main land, the Collector was to make roads for giving access to the river. That Section had, however,